

SEPTEMBER 1996

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China

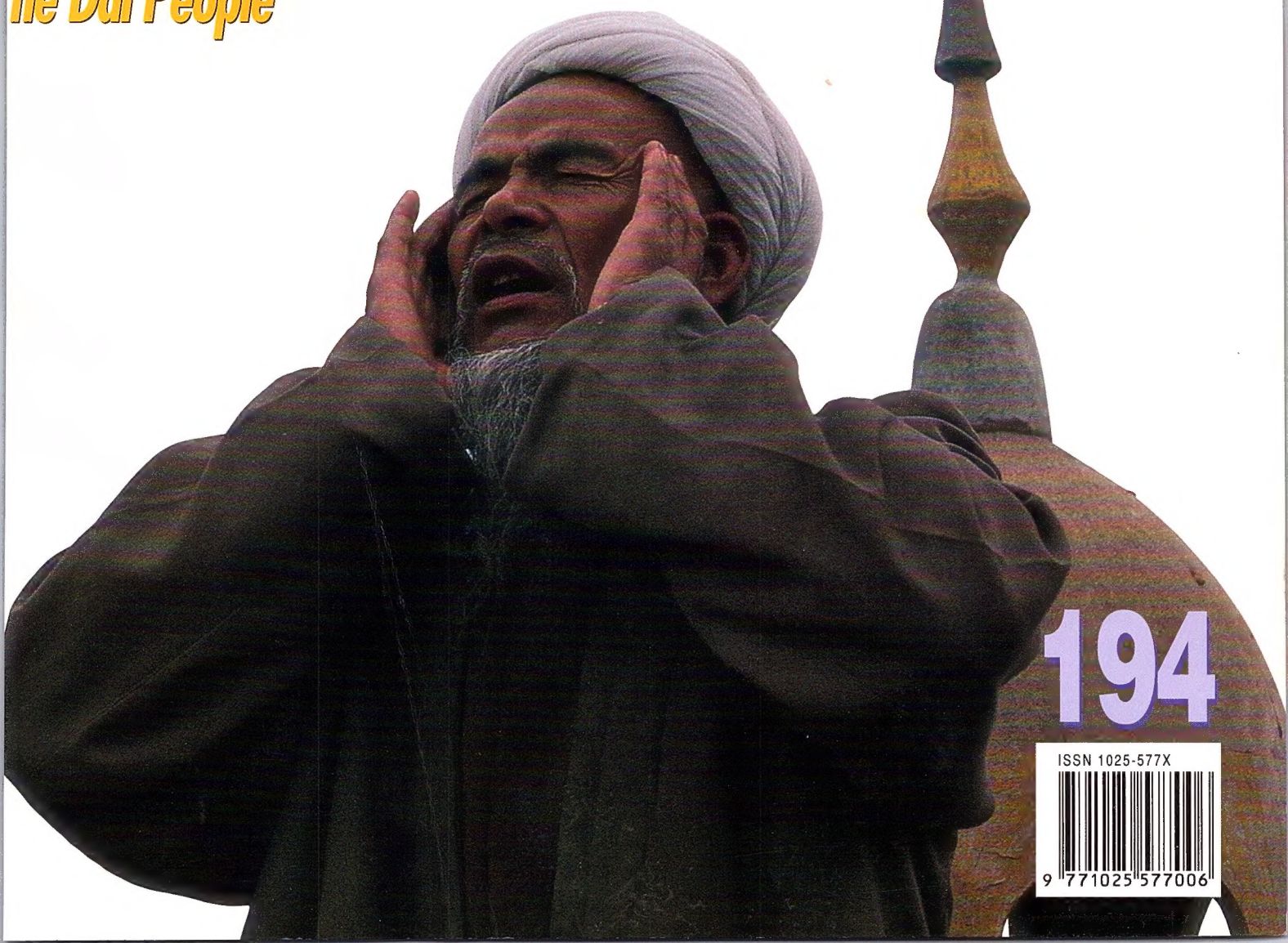
O U R I S M

Silk Road Discoveries

Nanjing Kaleidoscope

Charm of Chinese Gardens

The Dai People



194

ISSN 1025-577X



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錦江飯店
JIN JIANG HOTEL

上海市錦江(集團)公司
SHANGHAI JIN JIANG (GROUP) CO.



會客室 Reception Room

Located on Mao Ming Road in the city centre, Jin Jiang Hotel is a well-known garden hotel with an area of about 30,000 sq. m., of which 10,000 sq. m. are greenbelt. The hotel is proud to have received about 300 state leaders and government heads since its opening. Its incomparably attentive service has won high praise from guests from both home and abroad.

The architecture and layout of the hotel are of striking characteristics. Set off by two gardens, the three European-style buildings look elegant and magnificent.

The 515 rooms of the hotel are well appointed, including the presidential suite with the unique padauk furniture inlaid with mother-in-pearl and the luxurious suites with modern artistic decoration. You will feel relaxed and comfortable in our spacious rooms with elegant and traditional furnishings.

Jin Jiang's food has a history dating back to the 30's and its Sichuan and Cantonese cuisine has become perfected after more than a half-century of experience. The hotel has presented many cooking and banquet serving performances in Singapore, Hong Kong and U.S.A. etc. The different style restaurants offer a wide range of dining choices and make the hotel a gourmet's paradise.

The Grosvenor House of the hotel has taken on a new look since the renovation. The decoration of its 28 suites has mixed European-style and modern fashion together. It ranks first among the luxurious hotels in Shanghai.

Apart from fine amenities, the hotel has a business centre and shopping arcade. The superb service, nice location and bustling night life will be the ideal choice for you to do business or travel in Shanghai.



餐廳 Restaurant



外景 Exterior

錦江飯店座落在上海市中心的茂名路上，佔地3萬餘平方米，綠地面積為1萬餘平方米，是一家著名的花園式飯店。開業至今已接待了100多個國家的近300位國家元首和政府首腦，以及眾多的商賈巨富。周到完善的服務，贏得了中外賓客的一致讚譽。

飯店的建築，佈局頗具特色。三幢歐美式建築協調排列，在二座花園的襯托下盡顯高貴典雅之氣。

515間(套)客房中有擺設堪稱一絕的螺鈿鑲嵌工藝傢俱的總統套房，以及融合現代藝術手法進行佈置的豪華套房，標準客房體現了歐美建築寬暢舒適的特點，使您在無盡的享受中增添美感。

飯店餐飲始於三十年代，半個多世紀的錘煉造就了一批川、廣菜的名廚。飯店曾多次應邀去美國、新加坡、香港等地進行烹飪和宴會服務表演。飯店的餐廳分佈在各幢大樓，其中以北樓為主，有羅馬式建築風格的餐廳、東方田園式的餐廳和宴會廳等。

值得驕傲的是，經過重新裝修改造的錦江貴賓樓，28套房間均採用歐式傳統與現代風格相結合的裝飾，並配以一流的硬件設施，成為上海豪華級賓館之冠。

錦江飯店設施齊全，除飯店必備的服務設施外，還設有商務中心和購物一條街。快捷的商務服務、適中地段、多姿多采的夜生活，是閣下下榻的最佳選擇。



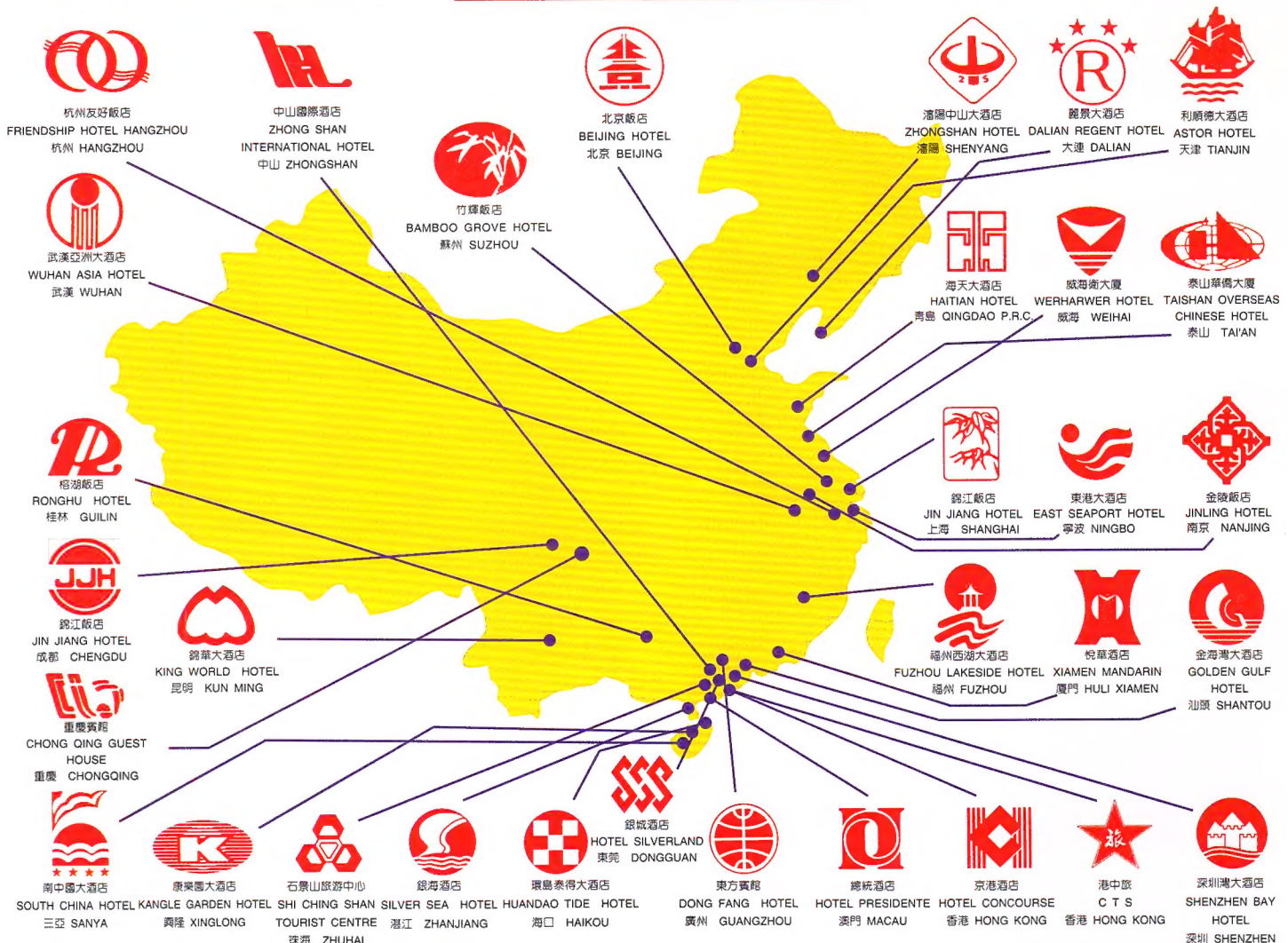
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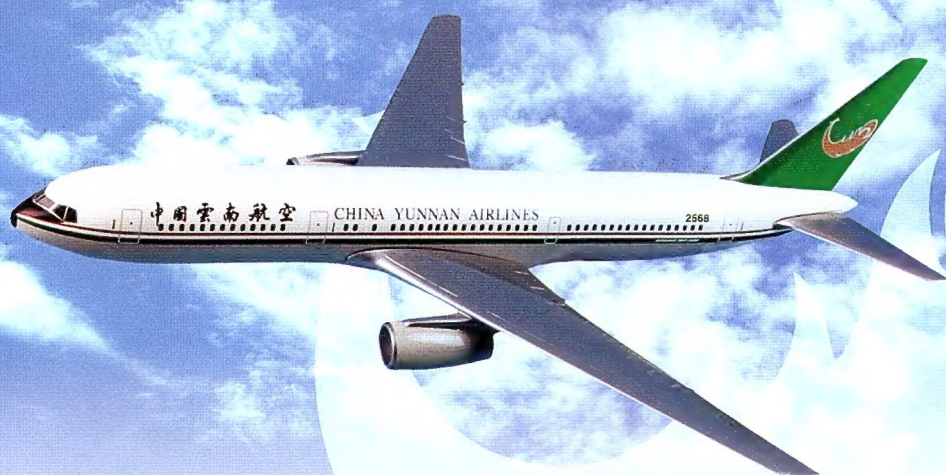
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In 1985, the first Boeing 737 – 300 aircraft was introduced into the company, and today it makes up its whole fleet. From August 3rd this year, the Boeing 767 – 300 will also be available to the public. The company has opened 49 domestic and international air routes. Their destinations include Singapore, Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur and many other cities in Southeast Asia.

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In 1994, China Yunnan Airlines and Laos National Airlines Co. Ltd. set up a joint venture – Lao Aviation, which is the first joint venture in China civil aviation history, and is also the landmark for the internationalization of China Yunnan Airlines.

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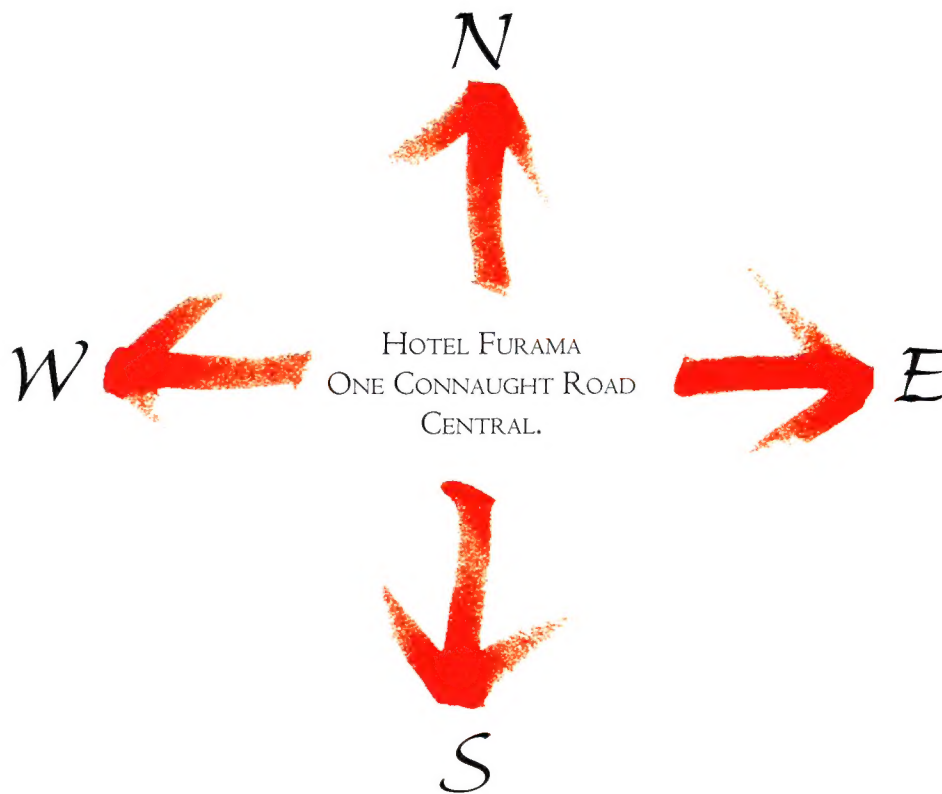
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C O N T E N T S

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LANDSCAPES

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- A Karst Landscape

Its name may sound wild, but the water flowing through the area is in fact very gentle, and a golden autumn gives it added charm.

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- A Journey Along the "Silk Road"

It is hard to imagine just how many hardships the pioneers of the Silk Road endured as they journeyed across the desert in those early days. But today, the cultural influences they brought to the area can be seen everywhere in Xinjiang, from clothing, housing and food to music and handicrafts.

CITY PROFILE

Wuhan, A Yangtse City

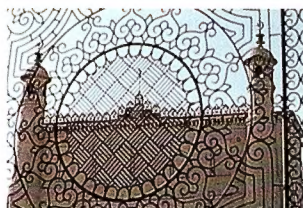
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With a population of three million, Wuhan is one of China's largest cities. It is actually a conglomeration of what were once three independent cities: Hankou, Hanyang and Wuchang. Established during the Han Dynasty, this aged city is poised to emerge as a thriving metropolis.

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H I G H L I G H T S

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Nanjing has many facets, some modern, some ancient, some lively, some serious.... It is this changing characteristic that attracts tourists.

P E O P L E S

The Dai People in Yunnan

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The Dai minority in China can be traced back to one branch of a southern ethnic group, the Vietnamese. Today, Dai communities can be found in several counties in Yunnan Province, their population mushrooming to almost one million.



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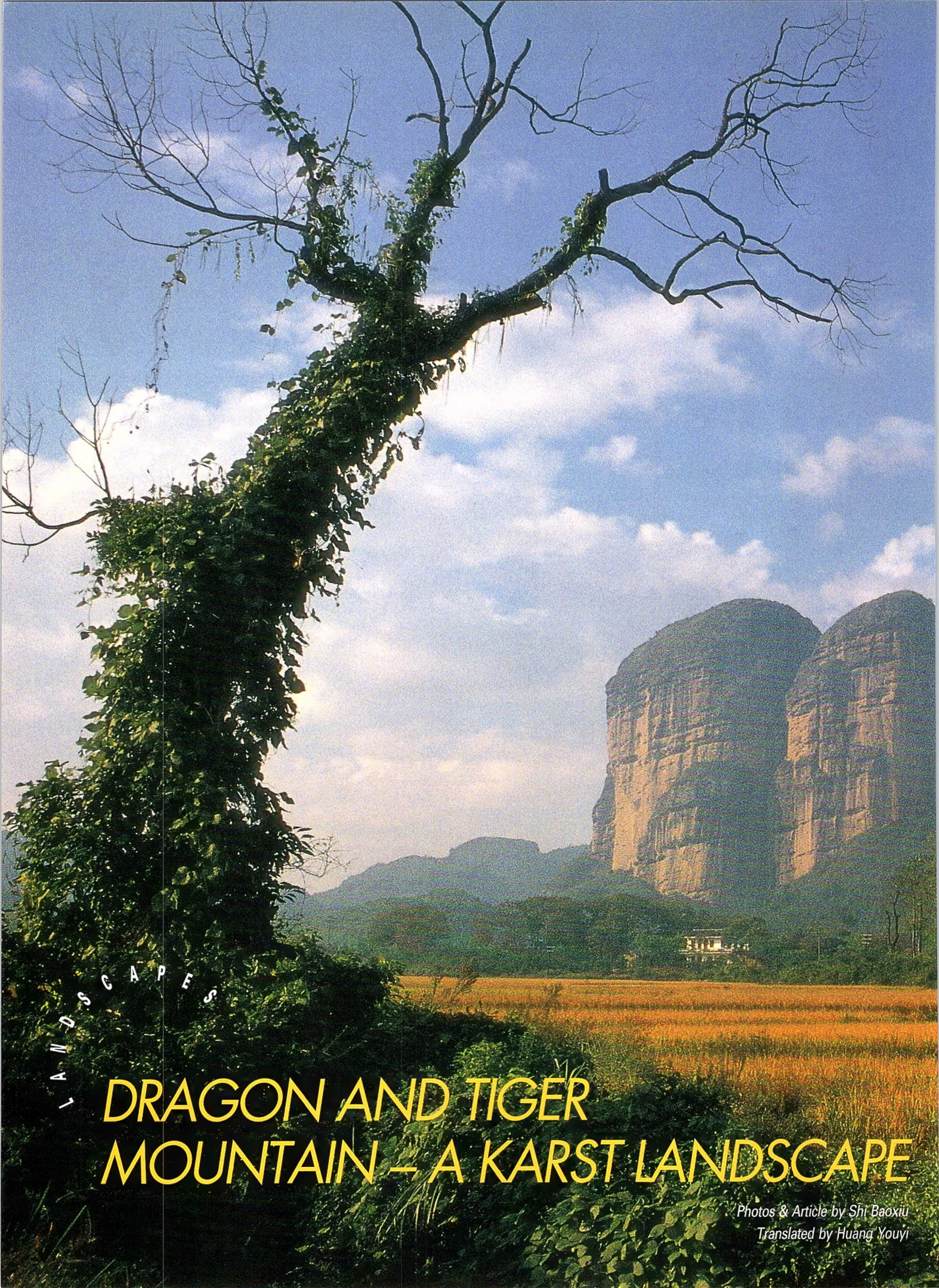
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Front Cover: An imam calling outside a mosque to announce the time for worship

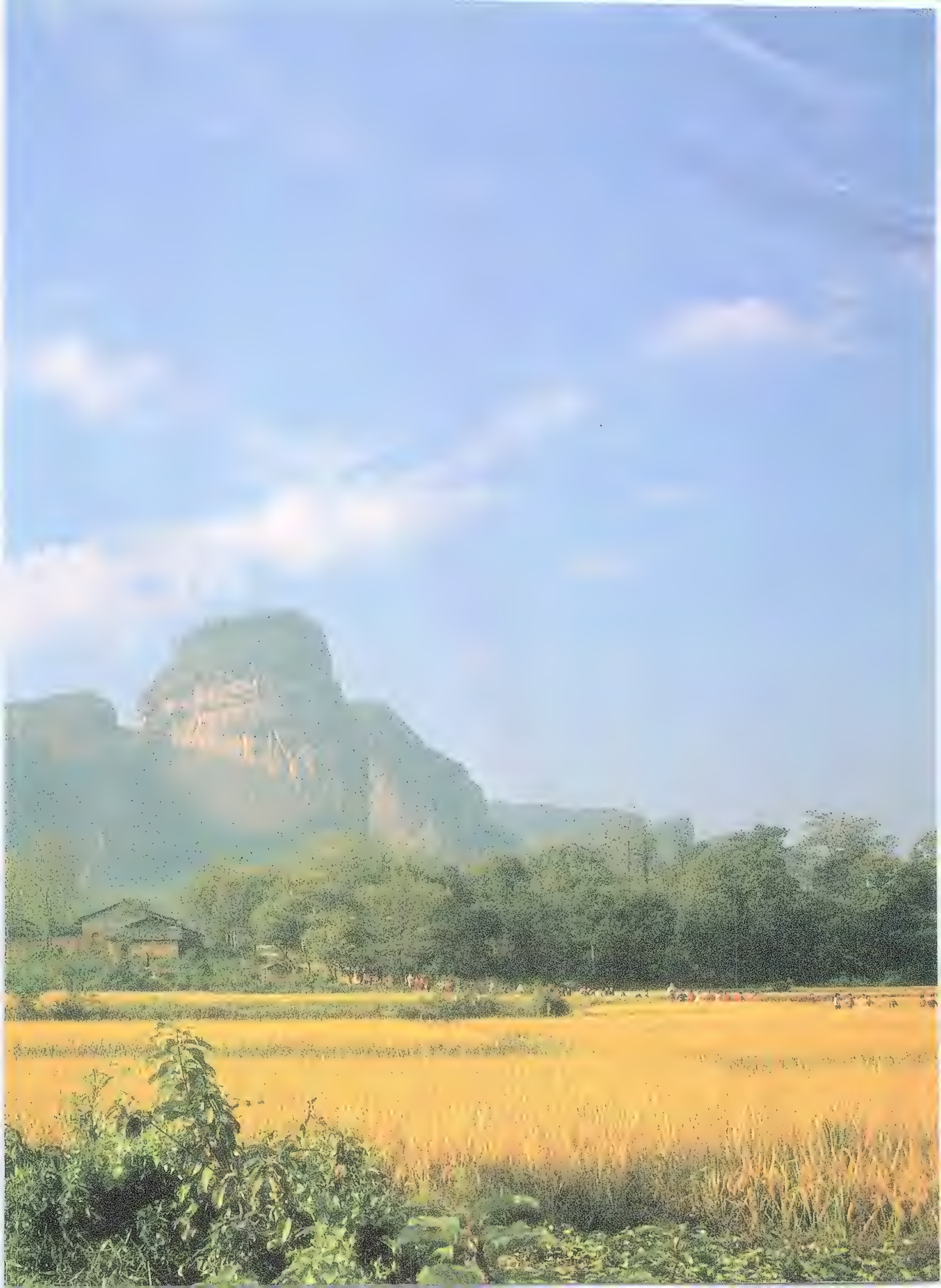
Wang Miao



L A N D S C A P E S

DRAGON AND TIGER MOUNTAIN – A KARST LANDSCAPE

Photos & Article by Shi Baoxiu
Translated by Huang Youyi





The Dragon and Tiger Mountain! What an impressive name. For years, I had imagined it to be a place of ominous towering peaks with menacing scenery. Perhaps there would even be ferocious beasts.

Finally, last autumn, I set out to take a proper look at the Dragon and Tiger Mountain. Although it was mid-October, I could not see much evidence of autumn, inside Yingtan City, but once in the suburbs, my eyes were greeted by the sight of golden yellow rice paddies waiting to be harvested.

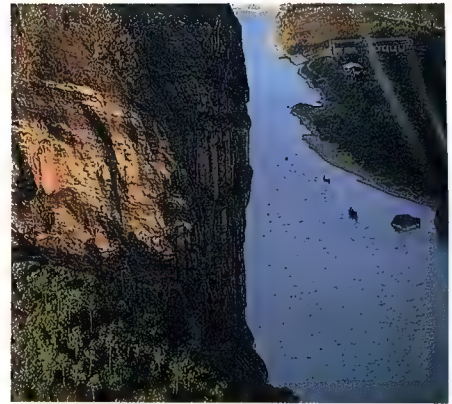
Intoxicating Scenery

As my bus sped on its way towards the Dragon and Tiger Mountain Villa I watched the rolling hills become more and more attractive. Then, as the bus started to ascend to a higher altitude, I stared in fascination at the golden land set against the blue sky. My fellow passengers also moved over to get a better view. In the distance stood several solitary peaks, each striking on its own beautiful pose, some appearing to lean lazily on its neighbour like intimate lovers.

A Fairyland

It was almost dusk when we reached the mountain villa. Immediately after checking in, I took the mountain path to the summit. On my way up I ran into many tourists who were descending the mountain, as if I myself were hurrying uphill to take up my evening duty.

By the time I got there my legs were shaking and I was panting heavily. The sun had already sunk behind the distant mountain. The Luxi River running into the Dragon and Tiger



Mountain Scenic Area reflected a purple light from the sinking sun. The flatland on either side of its banks was shrouded in mist. In the distance, the Xianglu (Incense Burner) Peak, tinged in orange, stood in solitary glory. Turning around, I found the Xianyan (Fairy) Peak and the Shuiyan (Water Peak) shrouded in purple-grey.

I enjoy looking at scenery at dusk. At such times, my mind becomes peaceful with the setting sun, as if I had become part of the boundless world of distant mountains and near-by waters. It always gives me a unique feeling of tranquillity and joy.

Drifting on Luxi River

The next morning, I fully intended to enjoy the graceful view of the Fairy Peak and Water Peak, when a bus stopped by the villa. A girl jumped off. Waving a yellow flag, she urged people to get on the bus and take a raft ride along the river at Shangqing Town.

Hearing of such a wonderful activity, I hurried onto the bus. We drove for more than 30 kilometres through yellow rice paddies again and came to a halt at the dock outside Shangqing Town.

The river was lined with dozens of bamboo rafts, each with an experienced rower. They were soon filled up and, one after another, set off downstream. During the first several kilometres, the river banks were covered with reeds with fluffy white flowers.



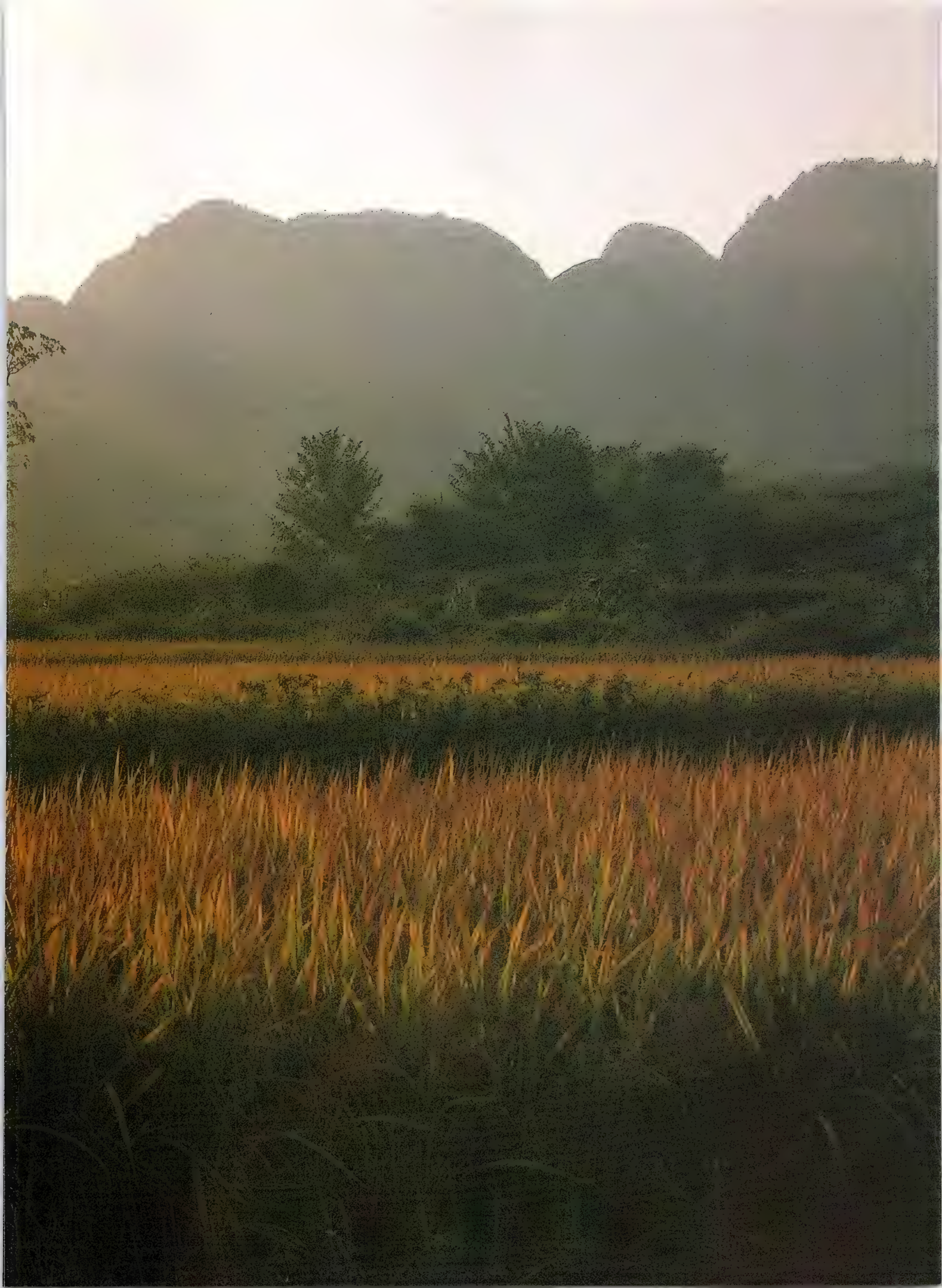
Previous page: Together, the graceful peaks, farmers' cottages and fields create a beautiful scene.

Left page: The Fairy and Water Peaks and their surroundings constitute the most beautiful section of the Dragon and Tiger Mountain Scenic Area.

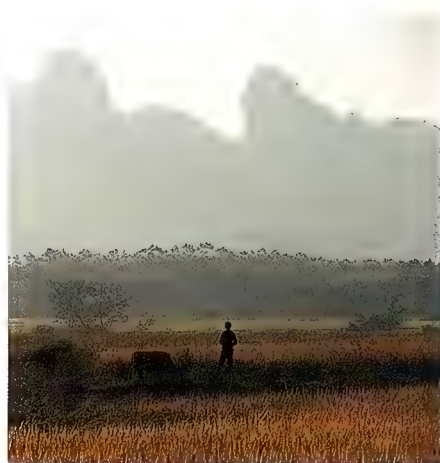
Upper right: A bird's-eye-view of the Luxi River from the Fairy Peak summit.

Left: Children grown up in the beautiful hills









Later, the river widened and the rower pointed to a mountain not too far on the right, saying it was the Dragon and Tiger Mountain. He pointed out the peak which was supposed to resemble a tiger, and another like a unicorn, explaining that the long ridge was the dragon. I looked at them intently, but could not paint the images in my mind.

For me, much of its charm and mystery lies in a record about the mountain. It says at the foot of the mountain, there used to be the Zhengyi Monastery where Zhang Daoling (34-156) achieved his position as a master of Taoism. Today, no temple can be seen, only a wasteland.

Graceful Peaks

Soon after we passed the Dragon and Tiger Mountain, the peaks facing the banks became taller, most of them abrupt cliffs. In a way they resembled the peaks of Guilin. The remaining 3.5 kilometres downstream is an area called the Fairy and Water Peaks Scenic Zone, the most attractive section in the entire area.

Passengers became more lively. They rose from their seats and posed for pictures with the hills in the background. Suddenly, a scream was heard from a nearby raft, followed by a loud splash. A lady who was too intent on posing for a photograph lost her footing and fell into the water. Luckily the river was very shallow at this section and people soon managed to help the soaked lady back into her raft. The rescue operation was followed by hearty laughter.

Natural Scenic Wonders

The rafts sailed past the Lotus Peak and

came near the solitary Water Peak. At the foot of the hill there was a huge cave. After about a hundred of us swarmed inside, it still had room for more people. The walls of the caves were carved with calligraphy left by visitors from past dynasties.

Following the other tourists, we left the cave and entered a valley between two mountains. They all gathered around a huge hollow crag. While the men pointed at the rock and talked with great interest, the ladies, on the other hand, took one glimpse and left giggling, with an embarrassed look on their face. This was the so-called "natural wonder" – Lady's Private Parts Crag.

Hundreds of metres up the Water Peak were many caves which served as tombs for the local residents over 2,000 years ago. One couldn't help wondering how they could have got the coffins up there with the technology available to them at that time. This ancient riddle has now been solved, and during peak tourist seasons there are breath-taking performances imitating the coffin laying ceremony. Actors tied with a rope around their waist are lowered from the summit. While reaching the cave level, they swing themselves into the caves. I am sure this performance is more exciting than watching the "flying man" during an acrobatic show.



Previous page: Peaks line up in a row, each with a different pose, creating a beautiful sight stretching into the horizon.

Left page: Framed by the blue sky and clear water, the Dragon and Tiger Mountain is all the more attractive. **Left:** Farmers have become part of the natural scenery. They probably no longer take any notice of the wonderful peaks.

Below: It is customary for villagers along the Luxi River to raise fish hawks.



TOURIST TIPS

The Dragon and Tiger Mountain, birthplace of China's Taoism, is located in the southern suburbs of Yingtan City, Jiangxi Province. Today it has become a national scenic zone embracing hills, lakes, ancient towns, the ancestral house of Taoism and much more. Sites of scenic and historical interest are closely situated and a one-day trip can, more or less, cover the best part of them. An alternative is to spend a night at the Dragon and Tiger Mountain Villa and take one more day to visit the sites.

There are two main tourist programmes:

• Rafting on the Luxi River

Visitors take a bamboo raft from the dock outside Shangqing Town. Each raft carries 10 people and the charge is 30 yuan per person. The rafts first sail downstream along five kilometres of reed groves, past the Dragon and Tiger Mountain where Zhang Daoling achieved his position of Master in Taoism, then into the most beautiful area of the Dragon and Tiger Mountain Scenic Zone, the Fairy and Water Peaks. The rewards of seeing the graceful mountains and waters on a raft is two-fold: it saves time and energy, and is full of unexpected excitement, with no risk involved.

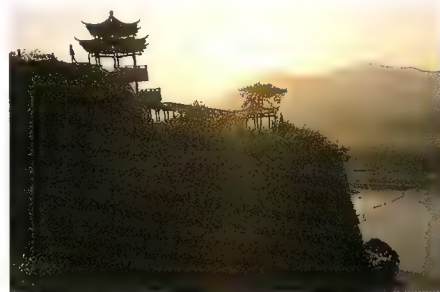
• Visiting the Heavenly Master Palace

At the western end of Shangqing Town, stands an ancient Taoism temple where the huge foliage of aged trees cover almost half the temple yard. This is what was once crowned by the emperor as "The Number One Temple in South China", also known as the Heavenly Master Palace. It is the birthplace of Taoism. The buildings here represent an ancient architectural style and the wood carvings are meticulous. If you come at the right time, you can also enjoy the melodious



Taoist music performed by a professional band.

Transportation: There are a dozen shuttle bus services daily between Nanchang, capital of Jiangxi Province, and Yingtan City, a ride of about four hours. Of course, the journey is more comfortable by tourist coach. The distance between the Yingtan City proper and Shangqing Town, and



again the Dragon and Tiger Mountain, is 20 and 30 kilometres respectively. Two special bus services to these areas can be found outside Yingtan railway station.

If you would like to hire a car or bus, it can be arranged through your hotel.

Accommodation: In Yingtan, you can stay at the two-star Dongfang Hotel, at 36 Zhanqian Road, which charges about 300 yuan a day for a room. The hotel organises one-day tours to the Dragon and Tiger Mountain. A room at the Dragon and Tiger Mountain Villa costs about 200 yuan. Located inside the scenic area, the villa is in a beautiful environment and is just 20 minutes away from the Fairy Peak and Water Peak Scenic Zone.

Food: There are many restaurants in Shangqing Town.

Shopping: Directly inside the Heavenly Master Palace, is a workshop producing Taoist clothing. Whether you are looking for a Taoist robe, a cap, or a pair of boots or any other Taoist accessory, each of the items feature superb embroidery skills and exquisite patterns.



Upper right: A viewing pavilion at the Fairy and Water Peaks Scenic Zone

Centre: Passing the Dragon and Tiger Mountain on a bamboo raft

Lower right: Shangqing Town is famous for its bean curd

Festivals: In mid-October every year, a Taoist Culture Festival is held at the Heavenly Master Palace. In addition to a variety of Taoist ceremonies and activities, a performance imitating the ancient ceremony of laying coffins in the caves of Water Peak is also staged.

VENTURING OUT

The picture in front of you is of the new highway in Xinjiang. Starting from Luntai in the north it goes to Minfeng in the south, crossing the third largest desert in the world, the Taklimakan Desert, which is described as a place where "you can enter but cannot leave." It is this 560-kilometre highway which brings life to the "sea of death" and enables the oil explored from the desert to be shipped out.

You may have noticed the grass plates along both sides of the road, but you may not know their number - in billions. It is owing to them that the highway is protected from the invasion of the desert. The construction of this huge project illuminates man's confidence in venturing out of the control of nature.

Seeing this new highway, we cannot help admiring the pioneers of the ancient "Silk Road" for their untiring journey. If they had never walked along the way, how could there be the later prosperity and cultural richness in this area? How could there be the modern highway we see today?

The word "diversity" typifies Nanjing. Here history blends in with modern life and past adversities have given birth to an optimism felt in every corner of its city life.

Leaving Nanjing, we invite you to join us in the serene pleasure of strolling through a few ancient Chinese gardens. The trip may help you gain a deeper understanding of the evolution of this unique Chinese legacy.

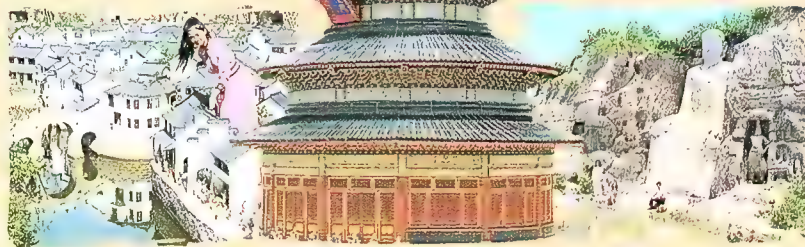
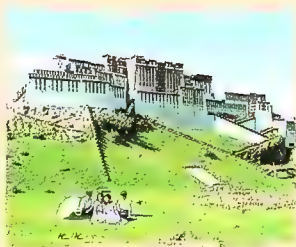
Lastly, we report on the Dai ethnic group living mainly in Yunnan Province. Venturing out of the isolation, they have caught up with the rest of the nation in the development of industry, agriculture and education. Their population has reached 1 million.

A GLIMPSE AT THE THOUSAND YEAR-OLD CIVILIZATIONS OF CHINA

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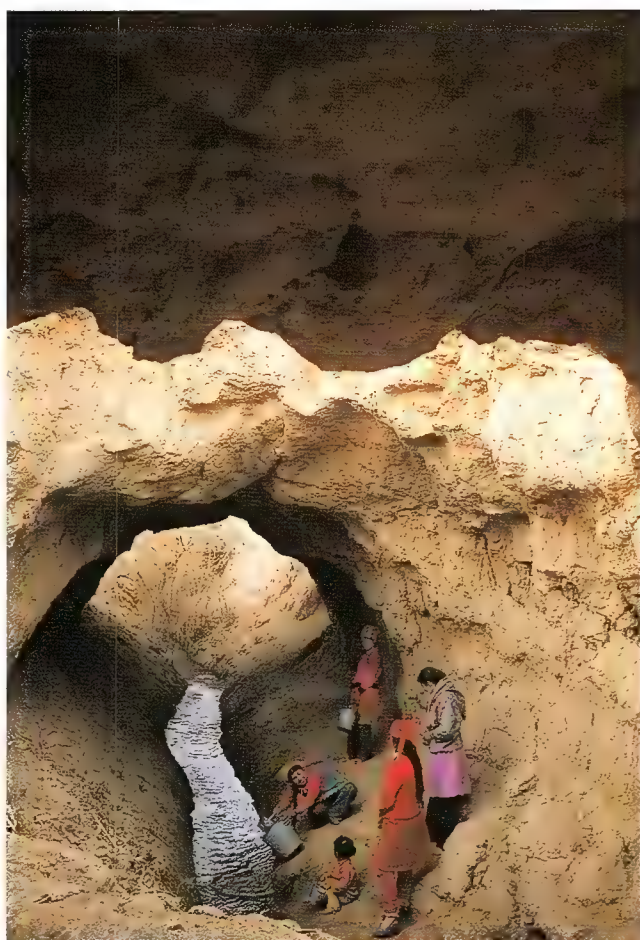
LIFE, CULTURE AND SAND

— A JOURNEY ALONG THE "SILK ROAD"

Photos by Wang Miao

Article by Huang Yanhong





■ Previous pages, Left: Water is life to a desert and this is no exception for the deserts of Xinjiang. As the saying goes, "When there is water, the oasis thrives; when the water dries, the oasis withers." Many of Xinjiang's oases are movable as they always follow the flow of water. Touring Turpan, a typical oasis, is the most convenient way to see a desert in Xinjiang. (by Song Shijing)
Right: Grapes have ripen. There are so many that the locals can neither eat them all nor ship them out. Therefore, a large proportion is processed into raisins or wine. The houses where grapes are air-dried, called *yinfang* (shadowed houses), has holes in its walls so that the hot wind can blow through to dry the grapes within 30 days. (by Chan Yat Nin)

■ Above: A Karez well is a special type of irrigation system in Xinjiang, which can be traced back 2,000 years. Through underground canals, the local people channel water from the snowy mountains into their fields. In this way the precious water is not exposed to the sun nor the hot wind, and is thereby saved from evaporation. (by Song Shijing)

Full of the excitement one usually experiences on one's first trip, I came to the hottest place in the world, in the hottest season of the year.

Turpan lies 154 metres below sea level in the Turpan Basin which is the second lowest depression in the world. It receives practically no rainfall and the temperatures are extremely high. It is said they reach as much as 50°C, with the surface temperature exceeding 80°C. Hence, a local saying exists, "Cook eggs in the sand and bake pancakes on a stone".

Lying north of Gaochang the ember-coloured Flaming Mountain stretches for approximately 100 kilometres and 10 kilometres wide. The mountain was made famous by the classic novel *Journey to the West*. In it the monk Xuan Zang and his followers went west in search of the Buddhist scriptures only to be halted by the formidable barrier of the Flaming Mountain. Standing in the scorching sun, one really has the feeling of being evaporated. In Turpan, a Journey to the West Palace has recently been built to commemorate the novel. I quickly went inside to escape the unbearable heat. There, I saw the images of the Great Sage, the Monkey King, and all the grand heavenly gods mentioned in the story. In the story the Tang priest finally managed to cross the mountain after the Monkey King borrowed a fan from the Iron Fan Princess. Perhaps, the gods were too wrapped up in the task of showing themselves off to visitors to have the time to borrowed the said plantain fan, which explained why it was so hot outside!



Delicious Grapes and Labyrinth of Karez

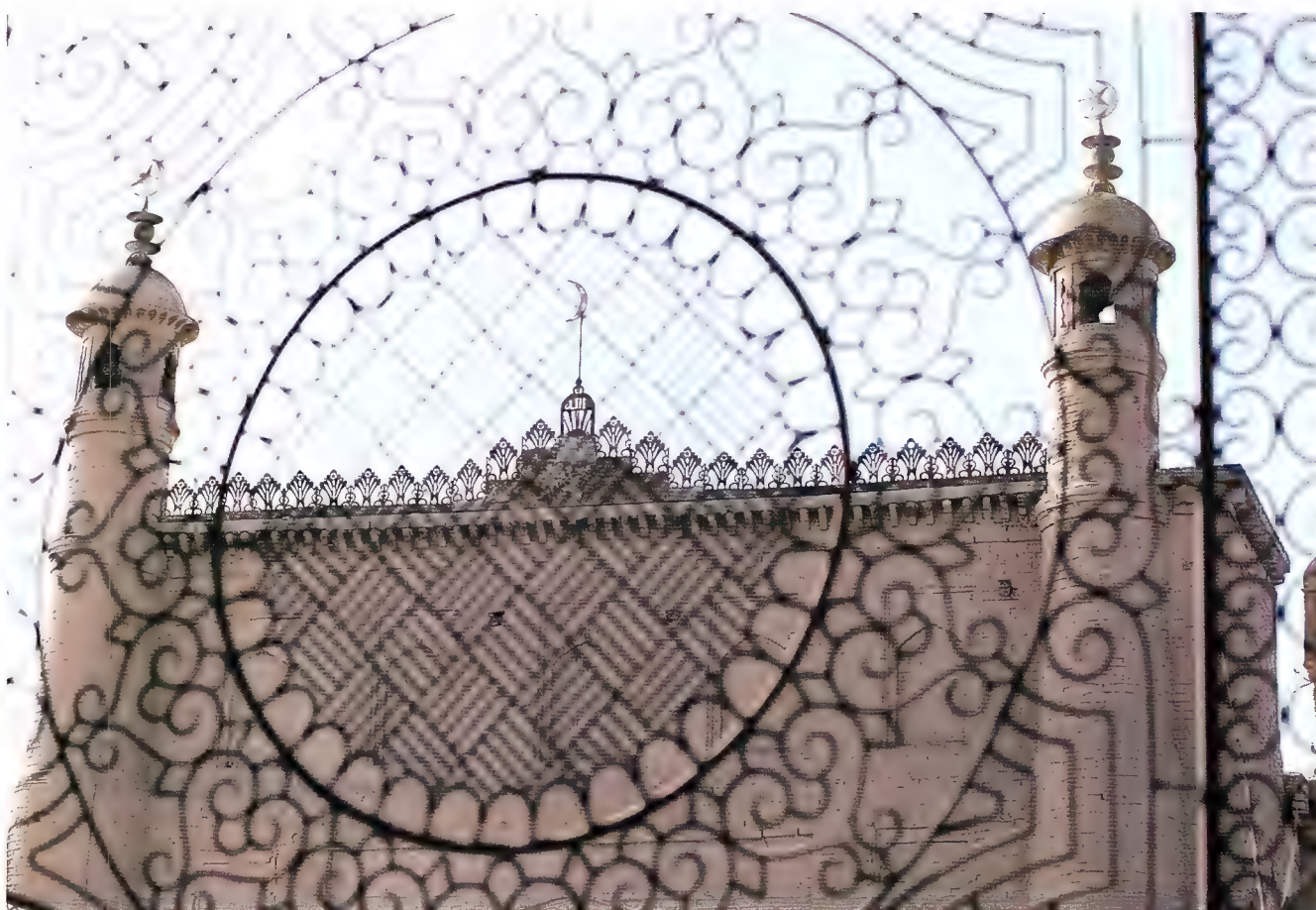
Having arrived at Turpan, one must visit Grape Valley. Upon entering from the western end of the Flaming Mountain, one is immediately surprised. Having just a moment ago suffered in the scorching sun, one is

■ Right: Hami melon has been farmed in Xinjiang for more than 1,000 years. Called *Gan* melon or Sweet melon in ancient times, the best Hami melon is in fact produced in Shanshan County, rather than in Hami. It is said that when Emperor Kangxi of the Qing Dynasty asked for the name of the delicious melon, one of his followers replied "Hami melon" because it was a gift of the Hami King. Regrettably or not, this official immediately started to spread the new name of the melon widely. (by Song Shijing)

■ Next page, Upper: Aidis Silk is a speciality of Xinjiang. The unique ancient Chinese technique of dying gives its patterns natural colour tone, adding more artistic charm. However, the patterns and colours vary in different areas. For example, those in Hotan stress the contrast between black and white while those in Kashi and Shache use various bright colours.

Lower: Following the meandering silk road, the cultural and economic exchanges between the East and West brought prosperity to Xinjiang and left with it a wide range of folk handicrafts, such as jade carving in Hotan, the embroidered hat and colourful cloth of the Uyghurs, and rugs. These gorgeous bronze cases, for example, are all hand made.





■ Above: Islam entered Xinjiang in the 10th Century. Xinjiang boasts the greatest number of mosques in China today. Among the Islamic believers are people from various ethnic groups, including the Uyghur, the Kazak and the Hui.

■ Right Upper: Hotan, which has been famous for centuries for its silk, ironically did not have any of its own silkworms. A folk tale has it that the Hotan King married a princess of the Han Dynasty, who hid some silkworm eggs in her hat and brought them to Hotan. Today, family silk workshops like this one can rarely be found. (by Song Shijing)

■ Right Middle: Kashi, which used to be a famous international market in ancient times, has the largest bazaar in Xinjiang. On market days, local people gather here to buy and sell all kinds of commodities. (by Song Shijing)

■ Right Lower: Xinjiang is also famous for its rugs, which are widely sold across the world because of their wool quality, beautiful designs and elaborate manufacture. There are so many rug workshops in Xinjiang that one can easily come across a master weaver wherever one goes. This kind of felt rug is very popular, especially among the Tajiks who use it to cover the ground of their tents to prevent dampness.



suddenly sheltered inside a massive cool green corridor. Clear water flows through the ditches, and grape vines and other fruit trees cover the mountain slopes on either side. Many different varieties of grape hang tantalisingly ripe from their vines – seedless white grapes, rosy grapes, plump red grapes.... Visitors can taste their delicious juice to their heart's content.

Xinjiang's history of grape cultivation has existed for more than 1,000 years. It is said that Li Shimin, the famous emperor of the Tang Dynasty (618-907), particularly liked the grape wine made in Xinjiang and encouraged people in the inland areas to learn the art of the wine-making techniques from the Xinjiang people. The agricultural miracle that makes grape growing possible are the underground irrigation channels called Karez. A karez is a special irrigation system of wells linked by underground channels. The melting snow from the mountain feeds the crop fields below and the fact that they are underground reduces water evaporation. In Turpan, there are more than 1,100 karezes, totalling more than 5,000 kilometres. Archaeological excavation has proved that the longest karez is 80 kilometres long, linking 300 wells. Some were constructed over 2000 years ago. An interesting phenomenon is that the karezes are mostly found along the "Silk Road", including Iran and Turkmenistan, as well as Xinjiang, Gansu and Shaanxi provinces. As to the question of where the karez technology originated – from the West, the central plains or locally – there are different opinions. Most likely, it did develop locally in Turpan, but it is remarkable to think that this extensive irrigation system was entirely constructed by hand without the benefit of modern building materials.

Kizil Thousand-Buddha Caves: Evidence of the Ancient Piousness

Kuqa is well-known for its Buddhist relics. Within the boundaries of the county, there are three well-known thousand-Buddha caves.

The Kizil Cave is one of four major Buddhist caves in China and is the

largest in Xinjiang. It includes more than 200 cave temples and caves for living, meditation and storing food. Such a comprehensive Buddhist compound is rare. Moreover, there are some 10,000 square metres of murals relating to stories about Buddha and to tales recording the deeds and hardships of merchants who travelled along the "Silk Road".

The Kizil Thousand-Buddha Caves were built in the 4th century A.D. By that time, the Octogenarian and Buddhist Master Faxian had returned to China after having spent 14 years in India copying a large number of the Buddhist scriptures. Two hundred years later, the Tang Priest Xuan Zang followed in his footsteps to India and spent 18 years studying Buddhist doctrines. On his return, he wrote the famous *Notes on the Great Tang and the Western Regions*. Like them, many other prominent Buddhist masters devoted themselves to bringing Buddhism to the East. Their efforts resulted in expanding the influence of Buddhism in Xinjiang and left behind a rich cultural legacy. It is reported that all together 16,000 Buddha caves have been found in Xinjiang. Of them, more than 500 are well preserved. In addition, many Buddhist temples and pagodas can be found



throughout Xinjiang.

A Melting Pot for Cultures

At Kuqa, I watched an enjoyable performance of song and dance enacted by local artisans which aroused in me a greater admiration for the ancient Qiuci State. Having long been considered "a home of song and dance", Kuqa nurtured the talents of a famous musician who later made great contributions towards the reform of Chinese music theories.

The artists in Qiuci were particularly good

at "incorporating things of diverse nature and adapting them for their own use". This is proven by some of the musical instruments which have evolved, including the *sheng* (a reed-pipe wind instrument), panpipes and the *zheng* (a 21- or 25-stringed instrument similar to a zither) from inland China, the *huqin* from the Middle East, the *pipa* from Iraq, the *suona* from Turkey.... All these alien instruments have survived in the locality and have been modified according to the local artist's preference and have been



handed down through time.

On the face of it, this strict adherence to their own culture is limited to Kuqa. During the rest of my trip, I heard and saw many songs and dances by the people of Xinjiang which were based on their exchanges with the outside world and have become a part of the local cultural legacy.

The Silk Road signified both adventure and wealth. In China, Zhang Qian disregarded the hardships he knew he would come across and travelled along the road to the west regions, and in the West, there were also people who dared to venture along it to China. During the Tang Dynasty era, Chang'an, then China's capital, witnessed a unprecedented "boom of non-Han Chinese culture", the consequence of large numbers of foreign people from other countries. At dusk one day, the great poet Li Bai was enraged as he took a walk through the streets and came across a scene which disturbed him. At a wine shop he saw Persian courtesans holding cups of phosphorescent jade filled with wine and fraternising with wealthy young men. Hence, he wrote in a poem the following two lines, "Where should one go when all flowers fall? The alien girls' wine shop with smiles." With these courtesans from foreign lands, came glass and spice as well as music and unusual skills. In Chang'an, for instance, one could see Western magicians "who blew out flames and tied and untied



themselves". Even the emperors applauded their performance.

In Ürümqi, I had the good fortune to see a wonderful acrobatic performance. In it, I saw the influences of both Western magicians and the essence of Chinese martial arts. I am sure it would compare favourably in every way with the shows once applauded by emperors.

Hotan Silk and Caesar Robes

As well as once being a major city along the Silk Road, Hotan is one of China's three major centres of silk production. It is also home to the famous carpet production and a centre for jade and jade carvings. More than 2,000 years ago, Zhang Qian passed through here on his way to Rome, carrying large piles of silk and other goods. In Rome, the rulers

were the first to benefit from these goods, and the fine robes of Caesar and his statesmen were made of Chinese silk. So precious was the material that the robes would only be worn for important occasions. As a result, the price of silk soared.

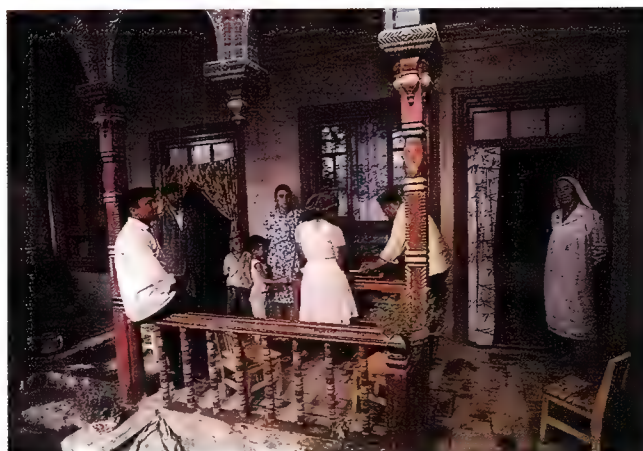
I visited a typical farmer household. It was once a family-run work-



shop for "Aidis" silk. Unfortunately, the workshop ceased manual production many years ago. Its primitiveness and high costs meant it lacked the competitive edge needed to fight against modern technology. Using traditional methods, a bale of silk would take more than ten days to produce. The owner, an exponent of the traditional craft, said he could not help but feel regret for the possible disappearance of an age-old art.

Carpet — the Older the More Precious

An interesting experience of visiting a bazaar (market) is to buy a carpet. As already mentioned carpet is a major product of Hotan and there are many shops specialising in the sale of carpets. Inside every shop they are hung on walls and piled high on floors in their hundreds. The buyer can examine every one of them, choosing the one he likes most. The symbols and patterns in the carpet designs come from global inspirations: the mountain peaks in Caucasus, the roses of Ancient Egypt, the longevity



patterns of China's Han Dynasty, and the Buddhist pomegranate flower.... Nearly every family in Hotan can weave. It is said it takes more than a month to weave one carpet measuring one square metre, in medium density (540 warp lines). This fact serves to explain why the price of carpet is so high.

Most people prefer to buy new carpets, but there are experts in the antique industry who buy only old ones. Obviously these are more ex-

pensive as they are more collectable and usually increase in value.

Jade carvings are another speciality of Hotan. It is said that more than 3,000 years ago two pieces of Hotan jade were given to a visiting emperor who was on an inspection tour of Xinjiang. The pieces were greatly prized. In all the ensuing dynasties, gifts of Hotan jade were given in tribute to the

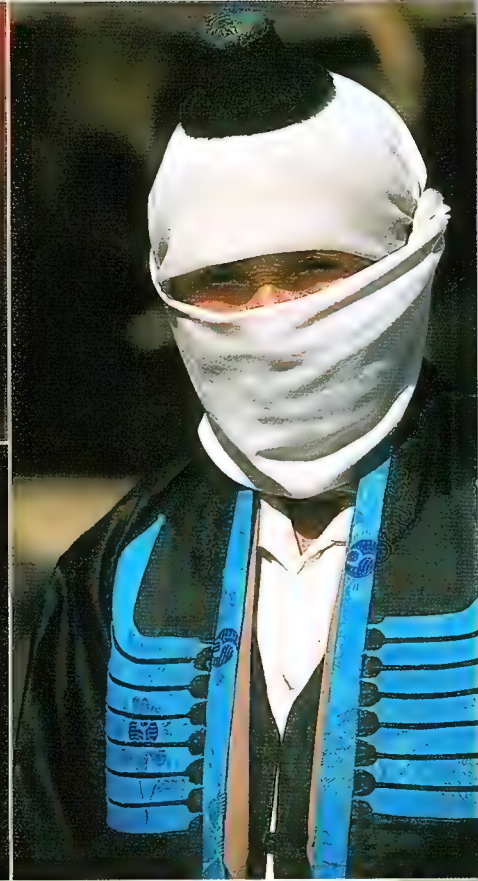
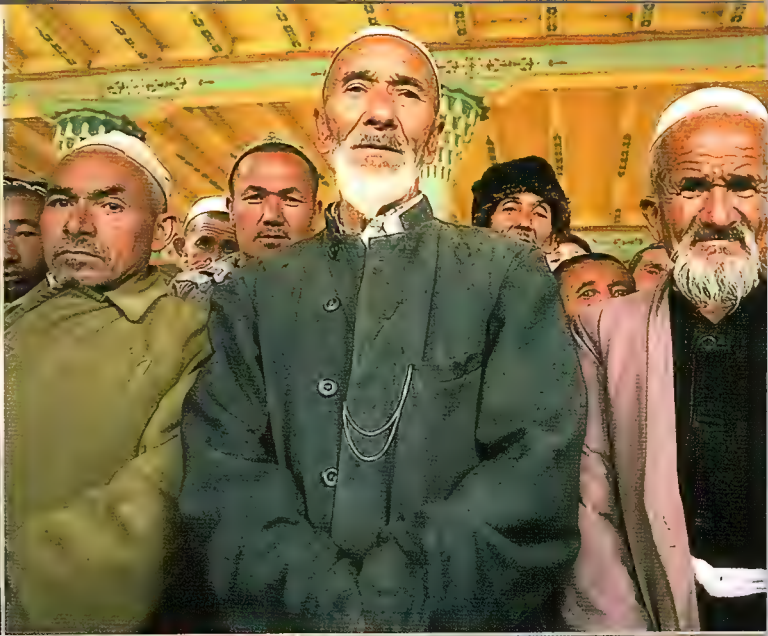


■ Left Upper: Yengisar is one of four famous knife brands in Xinjiang, with the best manufactured in Yengisar. Made of steel with a special technique of forging, Yengisar knives are made into different shapes to appeal to customers of various ethnic groups, including the Kazaks, the Mongolians and the Tibetans.

■ Left Middle: Xinjiang is rich in folk music. Many of the popular musical instruments combine both Chinese and foreign legacies. Among them are several dozen kinds of string, woodwind and percussion instruments played by various ethnic groups. Manufactured here are *dongbula*, a two-stringed instrument of the Kazaks.

■ Left Lower: Traditional Uyghur residences are spacious. Besides a kitchen, storeroom, living room and bedrooms, which are linked by corridors and arch gates, the house also contains a *supo* in which the residents can enjoy warm sunshine in winter and cool breeze in summer. The inner yard is often decorated with banisters and pillars on which Uyghur-style patterns are carved. In some homes, there is even an orchard or a garden.

■ Above: Bazaar, the Uyghur market, is an interesting place full of local colour. Main commodities sold at a Bazaar are agricultural and non-staple products, maize, edible oil, vegetables and nang, a kind of flat bread very popular among the locals.



Imperial Palace. In the Beijing Palace Museum there is a gigantic jade carving made of Hotan jade entitled *Yu the Great Harnesses the Rivers*; it weighs some 5,000 kilograms.

Daggers — a Special Souvenir from Kashi Bazaar

Xinjiang's largest bazaar is in Kashi. It is held every Sunday and is well-known for the many varieties of goods it offers as well as the large number of people it attracts — usually more than 100,000.

The bazaar is also a show ground for all sorts of handicrafts. For instance, the intricately carved Uyghur wooden trunks always sell well. The patterns are either inlaid or painted by hand and the craftsmen willingly show off their skills by making them on the spot. "Yengisar" daggers can also be considered a speciality of Xinjiang. Their quality and exquisite appearance is so appealing to visitors that even if you have no intention buying one, you still do. The daggers are made in many styles, including those of the Uyghur, Tibetan and Mongolian, in the hope of enticing buyers from different regions. Bronze, silver and bone rivets are used to form various patterns on the handles. The best are made from pure silver or precious stones.

Other native products are embroidered caps, patchwork blankets, waist bands, Kirgiz tapestry, etc. The number of products one can buy is vast.... The credit should go to pioneering Zhang Qian, who was the first to open up the Silk Road more than 2,000 years ago. In the long years that followed, diplomatic envoys, businessmen and other people met and exchanged not only commodities, but also wisdom and skills, thus sowing the seeds for a diversified culture.

Religions, Another Benefit

The Id Kah Mosque is indeed a grand sight. The largest in Xinjiang, its hall of worship is capable of holding 6-7,000 worshippers. Built more than 500 years ago, it is a place where important religious activities are held during the various Islamic festivals. The Muslims also conduct their daily religious services there.

The mosque truly represents religious devotion....

While visiting a mosque, I could not help thinking about the grottoes, where the Buddhist gods seem to have been left for centuries in eternal meditation.

Perhaps, religion in Xinjiang can also be accredited to the "Silk Road."



Translated by Li Zhenguo and Eva Liu

THE SILK ROAD AND ITS FORERUNNERS

In 2nd Century B.C., a trade route linking China with Rome gradually became established. It started from Chang'an in China, running westward along the Weishui River passing the Yellow River Corridor on the Loess Plateau in Gansu, to reach Dunhuang, then a pivotal communications spot between central China and the West Regions. At Dunhuang, the road divided in two: The southern branch crossed the Yangguan Pass to enter Xinjiang, passing Ruqiang, Minfeng, Hotan and Yecheng, where it continued up to Taxkorgan on the Pamirs. From there, it went further west. The northern route branched out from the Yumen Pass to enter Xinjiang, through Turpan, Korla, Kuqa, Aksu and Kashi and passing Felganna and other places in Central Asia, where it arrived at Iran to converge with the southern route. Then, it went through Iraq, Syria and Lebanon and crossed the Mediterranean Sea to reach its destination — Rome and Venice in Italy. Later, a new road opened in northern Xinjiang, passing through Hami, Qitai, Yining, Tashkan and Samarhan to enter Iran.

The forerunner of this trade route was Zhang Qian, who was a diplomatic envoy from China's Han Dynasty (206 B.C.- A.D. 24). In 139 B.C., he was dispatched by Emperor Wu to make preparations for an alliance with the State of Darouzhi to resist the Huns. He returned 13 years later. In 119 B.C., Zhang Qian returned to the West, taking with him an envoy of 300 people bringing valuable goods, including silk. The first large-scale trading between the East and the West thus began. Apart from silk, other exchanges took place between the East and Central Asia, Iran and Rome, such as China's know-how in tobacco curing, silk cocoon processing, the making of gun powder, paper and the compass. At the same time, produce and goods cultivated in the West and Central Asia, such as grapes, cucumber, pepper, garlic and spice, also made their way to China via this road.

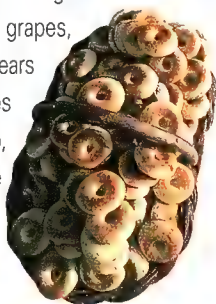
In 399 A.D., Faxian, an aged monk of the Eastern Jin Dynasty, set off from Chang'an on a 14-year crusade in search of Buddhist scriptures. In 629 A.D., the Tang Dynasty monk Xuan Zang also set off from Chang'an to make a journey to the west to study Buddhism.

After an alternative route was established in the south, by sea, the once prosperous "Silk Road" gradually lost its former splendour. It was not until the late 19th Century that people once again began to show an interest in the Asian hinterland. As a result, the "Silk Road" awoke from its long sleep of several hundred years. Apart from its function as a transport route, the "Silk Road" today mainly performs the duty of a tourist attraction.

■ Left page: Xinjiang is inhabited by 47 of China's 56 ethnic groups, including the Uyghur, the Han, the Kazak, the Hui, the Mongolian, the Kirgiz, the Tajik, the Xibe and the Uzbek. The Uyghur people, the biggest ethnic group in Xinjiang, mainly occupy the areas of Kashi, Hotan and Aksu, though they can be seen everywhere in the autonomous region. The hard working and hospitable Xinjiang people leave tourists with a deep impression.

Tips on Touring Silk Road

Food Baked "nang" is the staple food of Xinjiang and comes in all sizes. Those made of lamb or vegetable oil are offered to guests at special celebrations. In addition, grapes, cots, water melons and pears produce. Other specialties lamb, roasted lamb kebab, lamb eaten with the



Nang of Xinjiang

Hami melons, apricots are all famous native are roasted whole shredded carrot and fingers.

Accommodation

There are many places to lodge in Xinjiang: Baodi Hotel, Yangtse Hotel in Ürümqi; Jiaotong Hotel, Turpan Hotel and Lüzhou Hotel in Turpan; Kuqa Hotel, Jiaotong Hotel and Municipal Guesthouse in Kuqa; Jiaotong Hotel, Hotan Hotel and hostels in Hotan; Seman Hotel, Tiannan Hotel, Silk Road Hotel, Kashigar Hotel in Kashi.

Shopping Good buys are: Uygur hats, wooden trunks, Kuqa lamb skins, Hotan carpets, jade carvings, waist bands, Yengisar daggers, Aidis silk, Qira and Yutian embroidered blankets, Kashi printed felt, Arkezi curtains, Xinjiang jewellery, saddles and pottery.

Sightseeing

Flaming Mountain and Xiyouji (Journey to the West) Palace Near to Turpan, the aptly named mountain looks to be on fire in the midday sun. A palace commemorating the classical Chinese novel *Journey to the West* describes the adventures of the Monkey King.

Ruins of Jiaohe City Located 10 kilometres from Turpan. The ruins are constructions of the Tang and later dynasties.



Tasting grapes during the Grape Festival

Gaochang Ancient City Located 20 kilometres from Turpan, Gaochang was first built in the Han Dynasty.

Grape Valley Located in the west valley of the Flaming Mountain, this small paradise has a thick maze of vines and grape trellises.

Karahoja and Astana Tombs Located 40 kilometres southeast of Turpan, the earliest of the tombs was built in A.D. 273.



Sand therapy said to relieve rheumatism



Sugong Minaret Three kilometres away from Turpan, this tower and adjoining Mosque were built in the Qianlong Reign of the Qing Dynasty. Without using any wood or stone, the spiral pillar of 44 metres high supports the weight of the tower.

Aydingkol Lake Situated 54 kilometres from Turpan and with an area of 124 square kilometres, the salt lake is the second lowest lake in the world, surpassed only by the Dead Sea. "Aydingkol" is a Uygur word meaning moonlight lake.

Kirzil Thousand-Buddha Caves One of the most famous grotto sites in China, the 200 caves are located seven kilometres to the southeast of Kirzil Town of Baicheng County. Built in the late Eastern Han Dynasty, these grottoes were abandoned later in the Tang Dynasty.

Kirzil Duoha Thousand-Buddha Caves Located in a mountain gully ten kilometres to the northwest of Kuqa, they are ruins of the Tang-dynasty Buddhist grottoes.

Demon's Ravine In the 100-kilometre-long Kuqa Valley, Yardan landform creates a jungle of twisting tormented landscapes.

Niya Ancient City Near to Minfeng City, Niya City was prosperous during the Western Han Dynasty and once became a vassal state of the Shache Kingdom. It was discovered by a British explorer in 1901.



Camels – "ships" of the desert



Ruins of ancient Niya City



Kuqa Valley (Demon's Ravine)

Grand Mazar

(Tomb) Located 90 kilometres from Minfeng, it is said that the fifth generation of Mohammed was buried there. It draws thousands of Muslim visitors every year.

Kexi River Passing many vineyards in Qira County.

Tushala Township

Near to Hotan, this town is famous for its hand-woven carpets.

Ruins of Yuedegan

Located 10 kilometres from Hotan, the Yuedegan Kingdom can be traced back to between the 3rd

and 8th Century. Many historical relics were found buried a few metres below ground.

Malikwat Ancient City

Located 25 kilometres from Hotan, it is said to be the west city of the Yutian Kingdom.

Taklimakan Desert and Hotan River

May and October are the best months to visit this desert as the river bed is dry and it is possible to hire camels, donkey carts and jeeps to cross the river bed.

Id Kah Mosque Located in central Kashi, it is the largest mosque in Xinjiang. With an area of one hectare, its 140 metres-long hall is capable of holding 7,000 people.

Abakhoza Tomb Or Xiangfei (Fragrant Concubine) Tomb is located in suburban Kashi. Buried here are 72 of the Abakhoza family spanning five generations. The tomb's name derives from the fact that clothes belonging to one of the emperor's concubines are buried here.



Journey to the West Palace at the foot of the Flaming Mountain



Sightseeing by donkey cart

Package Tours

At present, China International Travel Service, Xinjiang offers a variety of package tours. Among them the 12-Day Tour "Crossing the Taklimakan Desert" is the most attractive. The route goes via Korla, Kuqa, Minfeng, Hotan and Kashi and one can visit many historical relics and experience life in the desert. A similar 16-day tour is offered by Xinjiang Nature Travel Service. The route, in addition, also includes Urümqi and Taxkorgan. Other direct tours from Hong Kong to Xinjiang are offered by China Travel Service Hong Kong Ltd. and Hong Kong Student Travel Ltd.

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Telex: 210203 CHFS CN
Fax: 86-10-65124736

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65132157
Telex: 210161 TUHSU CN
Fax: 86-10-65132156

China Tuhsu Shanghai PuDong Import & Export Corporation

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Fax: 0086-21-62193941

China Tuhsu Shen Zhen Import & Export Corporation

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Tel: (0755)2280855, 2280359
Fax: (0755)2170567

China Tuhsu Hainan Import & Export Corporation

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Fax: (0898)6260555

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Telex: 22469 TUHSU CN
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Tel: 65124766
Telex: 22469 TUHSU CN
Fax: 86-10-65124766

China Tuhsu Sunry International Trading Corporation

Address: 82, Dong An Men Street, Beijing, China 100747
Tel: 65132164, 65132195, 65132192
Telex: 22283 TUHSU CN
Fax: 86-10-65132163

China Tuhsu Lanzhou Import & Export Corporation

Address: No.99 Science And Technology Street, Lanzhou, China, 730000
Tel: (0931)8820061
Fax: (0931)8419884

China Tuhsu Zhejiang Import & Export Corporation

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CITY PROFILE

WUHAN A YANGTSE CITY

Article by W. L. Kwok



Wuhan is located in the middle of the Yangtze River, which is one of the longest rivers in China. It is a major transportation hub and has a long history. The city is known for its hot springs and is a popular tourist destination. It is also a major industrial and commercial center. The city is divided into three parts: Wuchang, Hanyang, and Hankou. Each part has its own history and culture. The city is a mix of old and new, with traditional architecture and modern buildings. It is a vibrant city with a lot of life. The city is a great place to visit and experience the culture of China.



A BRIEF RETROSPECT

According to Chinese history, Wuhan has always been an important city in terms of its military presence, transport, culture, and commerce.

The excavation of Panlong City ruins dating back to the Neolithic Age (16th-11th centuries B.C.), has shown that Wuhan has a history of 3,500

years, thereby

establish factories in Wuhan.

On October 10, 1911 the Wuchang Uprising was launched to overthrow the Qing Dynasty. As a consequence, on November 13, 1911 the Provisional Government led by Dr. Sun Yat-sen was set up in Nanjing to announce the establishment of the Republic of China.

In 1926, the three separated cities were once again united as the Wuhan Special City. Only to be separated again later until it was officially joined together as one single city in May 1949.

Wuhan covers an area of over 8,200 square kilometres with seven administrative districts (i.e. Jiang'an, Jianghan, Qiaokou, Hanyang, Wuchang, Qingshan, and Hongshan), two suburban districts (i.e. Dongxihu, and Hannan), and four counties (i.e. Wuchang, Hanyang, Huangpi, and Xinzhou).

The city has established good business relationships with many overseas cities around the world, including Oita of Japan, Duisburg of Germany, Pittsburgh of the United States, Manchester of the United Kingdom, and Galati of Romania.

Above: Street stalls can be seen in Wuhan alleys
Below: A street in Wuhan

of the oldest cities in China. During the Southern and Northern Dynasties (420-581) Wuhan blossomed into a large city and later developed into a provincial site in the Sui Dynasty (581-618). Owing to its favourable geographical location, not only did Wuhan become an important economic and transportation centre but also a military post, making it among China's top four cities during the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) – the others being Foushan of Guangdong, Jingde of Jiangxi and Zhuxian of Henan.

In 1467 the Hanshui River changed its course and thus split Wuhan, once one whole piece of land, into two parts. The two parts became known as Hankou and Hanyang.

Under the Tianjin Treaty signed between the Qing Court and the French Government in 1886, Wuhan became an open marketplace for Western countries. The power nations such as Britain, Russia, Germany, and Japan who were seeking raw materials from China, began to es-



WUHAN TODAY

Population

The city's population is approximately 7 million, of which the Han people make up the majority, while the Hui, the Manchu, the Zhuang, the Tujia, and the Mongol are the ethnic minorities. As well as the local dialect, most Wuhan people speak Putonghua (the official Chinese language).

Resources

About 100 minerals can be found around Wuhan, of which the deposits of marble, dolomite, manganese, copper, limestone and iron ore are rich enough to hold importance in China.

Water and forestry resources are also good with hydroelectric reserves amounting to more than 270 million kilowatts (40 per cent of the nation's total). Once the Three Gorges Dam project is completed waterpower resources in Wuhan will be greatly increased.

A Communication Hub in Central China

Wuhan sits at the centre of a crossroad formed by the Yangtse River linking eastern and western China and by the Beijing-Guangzhou Railway cutting through the country from north to south and thus the city is reputed to be "a thoroughfare of nine (Chinese) provinces". In addition, Wuhan is also a hub of air transportation.

Before the Yangtse River Bridge was completed in 1957, all traffic on the north-south route crossed the river by ferry. This road and rail bridge is



over 1,100 metres long and 80 metres high and is hailed as an example of the country's modern engineering achievements. It connects Wuchang to Hanyang. A shorter bridge spans the Hanshui River to link Hanyang with Hankou.

Wuhan port is one of China's largest ports, second only to Shanghai. The New Passenger Transport Port built in 1992 is the largest domestic passenger port in China. The Qingshan Foreign Trading Wharf is a commercial shipping dock, where three 5000-ton-class vessels can be berthed simultaneously. The wharf receives vessels from Japan, Russia, Vietnam and Denmark, amongst others.

The Hankou Railway Station is the fifth largest in China after Beijing, Tianjin, Shanghai and Shenyang. Freight trains from Xinhua travel direct to Hong Kong every two days.

Regular flights from Wuhan reach 15 major cities in China. Built only as recently as 1995, the Wuhan Tianhe Airport, the largest in Central China, is capable of serving Boeing 747-400 passenger airplanes.

Industrial and Commercial Development

Wuhan has been one of China's industrial cradles. During the second half of the 19th Century, it was developed into China's heavy industry centre. Hanyeping Company opened the first modern iron and steel plant here followed by a string of riverside factories. By 1911, approximately 100 modern industrial enterprises had been set up. However, industrial growth became obstructed by the 1930s depression, the civil wars and the Japanese invasion.

It was not until 46 years ago that Wuhan once again evolved into an industrial base, with steel and iron, machine building, shipbuilding, textile, chemistry, and food production as its major industries.

The city presently has 13 industrial zones, with approximately 5,000 industrial enterprises, which include international joint-ventures and co-operative enterprises, showing an average annual growth rate of 12.6 per cent.

As part of China's strategy for economic reform and opening to the outside world the Yangtse River Economic Developing Project was launched in 1990. Three sections of the Yangtse River, the lower, middle and upper reaches, have been chosen as the focus for economic development.



Peng Zhengge



Shan Xiaogang

Wuhan has been appointed by the Chinese Government as a leading city in this project, paralleling with Shanghai of the lower reaches, and Chongqing of the upper reaches.

Wuhan's GNP has been increasing by an average of 15.9 per cent each year since 1992. The city's gross annual income has grown to 22.2 billion yuan, with an average growth rate of 15.1 per cent. In addition, the city's fixed assets are valued at more than 75.7 billion yuan, three times that of the 1980s.

With an annual growth rate of 19.8 per cent, total foreign investments over the past five years amounted to US\$ 2.86 billion and the city wish to absorb US\$ 6-8 billion of foreign investments over the next five years, with 50 per cent of the total from Hong Kong .



Xing Minca

At present, 156 overseas companies and branch offices have been set up in Wuhan including Coca Cola and Siemens. In addition, the 10.3 billion yuan automobile factory, a joint-venture between the French Citroen Commune and the Second Motor Factory of China, has gone into operation recently with an expected output of 600,000 cars per year. This would make it China's largest car producer.

Not content with what it has obtained, Wuhan is working out its goals for the coming 15 years. It is preparing itself to become an open, modern, multi-functional international metropolis in Central China. In order to achieve the goals, the Wuhan local government pays great attention to the development of high-tech industries such as computer and laser technology, as well as finance and real estate so as to encourage foreign investment. Emphasis is also being placed on the need to improve the city's infrastructure such as its airport and wharves, communication networks, and personnel training in various areas.

Left page, Lower: A train crossing the Wuhan Yangtse River Bridge, which links the two districts of Wuchang and Hankou. Left page, Upper: Commuters alighting from the Zhonghua Road Docks at the foot of the Yangtse River Bridge in Wuchang Upper Left: A residential area in Wuchang Upper Right: The Yellow Crane Tower

VISITING WUHAN

Tourism is another important industry in Wuhan. In 1995, it received more than 160,000 overseas visitors, bringing in a total revenue of US\$ 54,390,000.

The best time to visit Wuhan is from April to November.

Scenic Spots

Most of the well-known tourist spots in Wuhan have historical links since the Wuchang section of Wuhan was established during the Han Dynasty (206 B.C. - A.D. 220). For example:

Huanghe (Yellow Crane) Tower Located on Sheshan (Snake Hill) in Wuchang, this tower was first built 1,700 years ago during the Three Kingdom Period (A.D. 220-280) and is the most famous tower south of the Yangtse River. Having been destroyed by fire and rebuilt many times, the tower's most recent reconstruction took place in 1985. Based on blueprints from the Qing Dynasty, the 51.4-metre-high, five-storey tower features yellow tiles, red pillars, and upturned eaves.

In front of the tower are pavilions, an archway and a white pagoda. Nearby there are more than 100 shops selling souvenirs and various other products.

To get there, take No. 1 or No. 4 tram to the Simenkou stop.

Ancient Fiddle Terrace Situated on the northern side of Qintai Road in Hanyang, the terrace was first built during the Northern Song Dynasty (960-1127) in memory of the friendship between two legendary figures in the Spring and Autumn Period (770-476 B.C.). Over the years, the terrace was destroyed and rebuilt several times, the latest construction taking place in 1981. The building retains the original architectural style of the terrace and covers an area of around one hectare. To the left of the terrace is a hexagonal tower, from where one can enjoy a panoramic view of the Yuehu (Moon) Lake and Snake Hill, two of Wuhan's famous scenic spots.

The No. 10 or No. 1 tram takes you there.



Peng Zhongge

Directly opposite the Yellow Crane Tower on Snake Hill, Qingchuan Pavilion is located at the eastern foot of Guishan (Tortoise) Hill along the bank of the Yangtse River. Taking its name from a famous poem written in the Tang Dynasty, the Pavilion was built originally during

the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) and was rebuilt again in 1986, in its original style. The present-day two-storey, 16.7-metre-high pavilion comprises an old archway, platforms, balconies, and waterside pavilions. Take either the No. 44 bus or one of the ferryboats to get here.

One of China's most delightful scenic spots and most interesting historical sites is the 3,323-hectare East Lake, located in the eastern suburbs of Wuchang.



Peng Zhengze

It has been known throughout China for some 2,000 years, since the King of Chu fed his horse by its shore. Six times larger than the famous West Lake in Hangzhou, it comprises ten different lakes with allegedly 99 twists and turns along its zigzagging shoreline. Gently undulating hills, plum blossom, lotus flowers, wild ducks and egrets, as well as over 30 different species of bird make it a delight to visit.

Built by two monks during the early Qing Dynasty (1644-1911), this monastery located at 6 Cuiwei Road in Hanyang sits on a 4.7-hectare plot of land. In it are many fine examples of Buddhist art, 7,000 rare volumes of Buddhist sutras including those from India, Burma, Thailand and Sri Lanka, making it a studying centre for Buddhists in China. A white jade statue of Sakyamuni, a gift from the Burmese in 1935, is still in good condition in one of the halls. The monastery's Arhat Hall houses some 500 statues of arhat, each with a different facial expression. To reach the monastery, take the No. 5, 6 or 24 bus and get off at the Zhongjia Village stop.

Built in the Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368) and located outside Dadongmen in Wuchang, this Taoist temple is the most well-preserved ancient structure in the city. The temple is named after a Taoist immortal Chang Chunzi. It houses statues and many Taoist scriptures. Some of the statues were built as recently as in the 1980s, as the

temple has survived several fires and has gone through subsequent efforts of reconstruction. To reach the temple, take the No. 1 or No. 4 tram, or, the No. 43 or No. 15 bus to the Dadongmen stop.

Built in 1909 and located on the northern side of the Horse Inspection Ground in Wuchang, the "Red Building", known as the site of the Wuchang Revolutionary Military Government, was a building used for meetings by the Hubei provincial authorities at the end of the Qing Dynasty. It was here that the revolutionary government declared the abrogation of the Qing Dynasty and the establishment of the Republic of China on October 11, 1911. In 1961, the site was announced as one of the country's key relics by the Chinese Government. To reach the building, take the No. 1 or No. 4 tram or, bus No. 10, 64, 11, to the Horse Inspection Ground stop.



Huang Keqin

Built in 1953, the Museum of Hubei Province is close to the East Lake in Wuchang, with exhibition halls covering a floor space of 1,600 square metres. Having a collection of over 200,000 relics dating from 433 B.C. to A.D. 220, the museum is the largest in China in terms of quantity and variety of relics. The museum receives more than 30,000 visitors every year. There is a shop selling souvenirs, reproductions of the relics, paintings and calligraphy, etc.



Shan Xiaogang

Upper Left: The Qingchuan Tower
Upper Right: Sunrise over the East Lake
Middle: A performance of the ancient Chu chime music
Below: The Ancient Fiddle Terrace



Peng Zhengze

CUSTOM AND CULTURE

Festivals in Wuhan

Spring Festival the Lunar New Year in January or February

Lantern Festival 15th day of the 1st Lunar month

Dragon Boat Festival 5th day of the 5th Lunar month

Mid-Autumn Festival 15th day of the 8th Lunar month

Spring Festival and Lantern Festival are occasions for family reunion. During these occasions people in Wuhan love to eat sweet rice dumplings, see the lantern shows, guess riddles, and go to the opera.

Dragon Boat Festival commemorates Qu Yuan, a patriotic poet of the Chu State in the Warring States Period (475-221 B.C.), people eat salted eggs, rice-dumplings wrapped in bamboo or reed leaves and have dragon boat races.

During the Mid-Autumn Festival, another occasion for family reunion, people love to eat moon cakes, and enjoy watching the full moon.

Religion

In Wuhan there are religious followers of various religions including

Buddhism, Taoism, Islam, Catholicism, and Protestant Christianity. Religious groups such as the Wuhan Buddhist Association, the Taoist Association, the Islamic Association, the Catholic Church Affairs Committee, and the Christian Association, etc. hold different religious activities throughout the year.

Performing Arts

There are many famous opera troupes and a large number of noteworthy performing artists. Hanju Opera, formerly known as the "Chu melody" and "Han melody", is a popular 300-year-old local drama. Having contributed to the formation of the Beijing opera, the Hanju Opera has always held an important position in the history of Chinese drama. *Four Successful Candidates*, *Weep Over the Ancestral Temple*, and *Beating the Flower-Drum*, etc. are all popular Hanju plays.

Chuju is also a popular local opera originating in Wuhan. Its first performance took place in 1902. Among its renowned plays there are *Vine*, *Night Rain Over Xiaoxiang*, and many others depicting the lives of ordinary people.

Below: A Dragon Dance at the Lantern Festival (by Peng Zhenge)



Culinary Specialities

Situated in the central areas of China, Hubei has an abundance of lakes and rivers. This is perhaps the reason why the Hubei cuisine is particularly famous for its fresh-water seafood. The characteristics of Hubei dishes are rich, thick and spicy, mainly using cooking methods such as broiling, coddling, steaming and stir-frying. The following Hubei specialities are recommended.

Dishes

Wuchang Fish A type of bream, which comes only from Liangzi Lake in Wuhan, is cooked with a variety of ingredients such as ham, bamboo shoots, mushrooms and chicken soup. Steamed Wuchang fish is very tender.

Hui Fish in Brown Sauce Hui fish comes from the Yangtse River. Its cooking method is unique in that the temperature of the flame must be adjusted three times, and oil must be added three times during cooking.

Dongpo Pork Dongpo Pork, named after the noted poet Su Dongpo of the Northern Song Dynasty (960-1127), is one of Hubei's most famous dishes. It was said that Su created this ruddy, soft and delicious dish while being relegated to Huangzhou. Since then, Dongpo Pork has been a popular dish across the land.

Flying Swallow Fish To prepare this dish, a carp must be filleted and the meat cut into the shape of flower petals. It is then marinated before being cooked. The tail is made into the shape of a swallow's tail and fried in oil. A sauce consisting of oil, sugar, vinegar, ketchup, spring onions and garlic is then poured over the fish. The result is both beautiful to look at and wonderful to eat.

Desserts

Dongpo Cakes The cake is made of flour, salt, soda, egg and water and is served sprinkled with sugar. It is said that poet Su Dongpo often used to drink wine and eat these cakes while enjoying the beautiful scenery of Ezhou in Wuhan. Other people soon began to follow suit, and the cakes became known as Dongpo Cakes.

Baked Sesame Cakes These tasty cakes are popular in Wuhan. Light, sweet and crisp, these baked sesame cakes were first made during the Qing Dynasty and are made by famous master pastry makers of the Meizu Shop today.

Snacks

Dry and Hot Noodles This is one of Wuhan's most popular and most delicious street snacks. The noodles are first boiled, then mixed with sesame oil and dried. Before using, the noodles are softened with hot water and then served with spring onions, shelled shrimps, pickled radish, sesame seeds, oil and vinegar. Most restaurants in Wuhan also serve this dish.

Laotongcheng Bean Pies Named after the restaurant where it was first created this seasonal local snack is eaten in Wuhan during New Year and on other holidays. Thin pasta cases made from beans and rice, are filled with a mixture of glutinous rice, diced meat, mushrooms and bamboo shoots, then fried in oil. This delicious pie is served only at the Laotongcheng Restaurant.

Tanyanji Boiled Dumplings Established in 1920 by Tan Zhixiang from Huangpi, the Tanyanji Shop in Wuhan has been serving its special boiled dumplings for over 70 years. Apart from the usual meat-filled dumplings, Tanyanji also offers dumplings filled with mushroom, chicken and shrimp, and sea cucumber.

Wines

Xiaogan Rice Wine This wine originated from a rice wine shop in Xiaogan County northwest of Wuhan. It has been a speciality of the area since the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). Light green in colour, the wine, made from high quality glutinous rice, has a fragrant aroma and is said to improve one's blood circulation and stimulate the appetite.

Yellow Crane Tower Brand Hanfen Spirit It is a top quality white wine made from quality Sorghum. Limpid, fragrant and refreshing, the spirit is ranked one of China's 13 most famous spirits.



Main Restaurants in Wuhan

Caiji Dry and Hot Noodles Restaurant

✉ 776 Zhongshan Avenue

☎ (027) 235152

Furong Restaurant

✉ 1085 Zhongshan Avenue

☎ (027) 21796

Guiyuansi Restaurant

✉ Guiyuan Buddhist Monastery, Hanyan

☎ (027) 441367

Laotongcheng Restaurant

✉ 1 Dazhi Road, Hankou

☎ (027) 211843

Mianyang Restaurant

✉ 60 Gongren Village, Qingshan

☎ (027) 661832

Xiaotaoyuan Stewed Soup Restaurant

✉ Shengli Street, Hankou

☎ (027) 23849

Xiaomeiyuan Restaurant

✉ 513-37 Jiefang Avenue

☎ (027) 554315

FOR YOUR REFERENCE

Weather

The city has a subtropical and humid continental climate. The coldest months are January and February with temperatures averaging 4°C. The hottest months are July and August, with an average temperature of 29°C. The rainy season falls between April and July.

Average Climate in Wuhan

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Temperature (°C)	2.7	5.5	10.0	16.2	21.1	26.1	29.1	28.4	23.9	17.6	11.4	5.9
Rainfall (mm)	30	50	100	150	160	200	130	100	90	60	50	40

Transport

How to get there? Choose from air, train, or sea depending on one's schedule and budget.

Flights to Wuhan (1996)

There are daily flights from Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Shanghai and Beijing

Trains to Wuhan

	Distance (km)	Trains per day	Duration (hrs)
Beijing-Zhengzhou-Wuchang	1231	8	17
Guangzhou-Changsha-Wuchang-Hankou	1064	7	17
Xi'an-Zhengzhou-Wuchang	1047	4	18

Sailing to Wuhan (1996)

	Distance (km)	Frequency (per day)	Duration (hrs)
Shanghai-Wuhan	1125	2	43
Nanjing-Wuhan	733	2	29

Getting around? Public buses and trams are the major vehicles in urban areas. The city also operates 15 ferry routes. Taxis can be found in downtown areas as well as from most of the hotels.

Wuhan Tours

One-day Tour: East Lake - Yellow Crane Tower - Guiyuan Buddhist Monastery - Ancient Fiddle Terrace - Han Western Street Market

Two-day Tour: Day one (as above). Day two Yangtse River Bridge - TV Tower on Guishan - Red Building - Qingchuan Tower - Changchun Temple

Accommodation

There are dozens of well-equipped, well-serviced hotels in Wuhan.

Wuhan Asia Hotel ☎ 616 Jiefang Avenue, Wuhan, Hubei 430030 ☎ (027) 5868777 ☎ (027) 5859372, 5856786 Situated next to the main commercial area **Changhai Hotel** ☎ 111 Yangjiang Avenue, Wuhan, Hubei 430014 ☎ (027) 2818980 ☎ (027) 2840596 Located in commercial downtown Facilities: multi-function Chinese restaurant, coffee shop, recreation hall, roof garden, and exercise facilities **Jiangying Hotel** ☎ 29 Zhongbei Road, Wuchang, Wuhan, Hubei 430071 ☎ (027)

7812250 ☎ (027) 7816018 Situated next to the East Lake Facilities: 147 rooms and suites Chinese restaurant, ballroom, bar, shopping centre, karaoke, beauty room, and clinic **Lantian Hotel** ☎ 1049 Jiefang Avenue, Wuhan, Hubei 430030 ☎ (027) 5862828 ☎ (027) 5854110 Facilities: 300 rooms and suites, Chinese and western restaurants, night club, karaoke, sauna and massage, conference rooms **Lijiang Hotel** ☎

1 Gym Road, Wuchang, Wuhan, Hubei 430071 ☎ (027) 7813666 ☎ (027) 7813638 Located 6 km away from the airport Facilities: 126 rooms and suites, Chinese and Western restaurants, bar, business centre, beauty salon, shopping arcade, banquet room and clinic **Liyuan Grand Hotel** ☎ 171 Xudong Road, Wuchang, Wuhan, Hubei 430077 ☎ (027) 6827537, 6812029 ☎ (027) 6827539 Located 8 km away from Wuchang Railway Station and 23 km from Tianhe Airport Facilities: restaurants, dining hall, business centre, hair salon and travel service **Qingchuan Hotel** ☎ 88 Ximachang Street, Hanyang, Wuhan, Hubei 430050 ☎ (027) 446688, 444181 ☎ (027) 564964 Located 13 km away from railway station and 15 km from airport Facilities: 300 rooms and suites, Chinese and Western restaurants, business centre, bar, beauty salon, clinic, meeting rooms, gym, tennis court **Yangtze Hotel** ☎ 1131 Jiefang Avenue, Hankou, Wuhan, Hubei 430030 ☎ (027) 5862828 ☎ (027) 5854110 Located 12 km from airport and 4 km from railway station Facilities: 202 rooms and suites, restaurants, ball room, karaoke, health centre, conference rooms, shopping arcade, beauty salon, clinic

Major Tourist Organisations

Hubei Overseas Travel Corporation ☎ 26 Taipei Yilu, Hankou, Wuhan, Hubei 430015 ☎ (027) 5784119, 5784120 ☎ (027) 2811891, 2811706 **Wuhan Overseas Tourist Corporation** ☎ 1129 Jiefang Avenue, Hankou, Wuhan, Hubei 430030 ☎ (027) 5832706 ☎ (027) 5854601 **Changjiang Cruise Overseas Travel Corporation** ☎ 55 Yanjiang Avenue, Wuhan, Hubei 430021 ☎ (027) 5858125 ☎ (027) 5893340 **Hubei Yangtze International Travel Service** ☎ No. 2 Building, Qingshiqiao, Hanyang District, Wuhan, Hubei 430050 ☎ (027) 485277, 4846940 ☎ (027) 4846914 **Hubei China International Travel Service** ☎ 48 Jianghai Yilu, Wuhan, Hubei 430021 ☎ (027) 2821265, 2816356 ☎ (027) 2811891 **Hubei Provincial Travel Service** ☎ 1365 Zhongshan Avenue, Wuhan, Hubei 430021 ☎ (027) 2838340, 2818148 ☎ (027) 2836714

What to buy?

Traditional handicrafts, embroidery (e.g. cheongsams, tablecloths), porcelain, jade, stone carvings, wooden opera masks and sailing boats, and Chinese calligraphy and paintings. Suitable handicraft shops are:

Wuhan Arts & Crafts Building ☎ 744 Zhongshan Avenue, Hankou ☎ (027) 566027 **Wuhan Cultural Relics Shop** ☎ 333 Zhongshan Avenue, Hankou ☎ (027) 536338 **Wuhan Carpets Factory** ☎ 16 Ruixiang Road, Hankou ☎ (027) 232003 **Wuhan Friendship Store** ☎ 263 Zhongshan Avenue, Hankou, ☎ (027) 555380 **Hubei Cultural Relics Shop** ☎ 13 Zhongnan Road, Wuchang, ☎ (027) 811336



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Xie Guanghui

THE CHARM OF ANCIENT CHINESE GARDENS

The garden is an important part of ancient Chinese architecture and much pleasure can be derived from viewing and studying them.

About 2,000 years ago, gardens already existed in China in the form of recreational reserves. In the early days, gardens were wildlife enclosures used for hunting by emperors and nobles and therefore plants were specially cultivated and birds and other animals bred.

In the Warring States Period (775-221 B.C.), groups of scenic views started to appear in the gardens in the form of pavilions and bridges. The planting of bushes and trees also started to become standard features.

In the Wei and Jin Dynasties (A.D.220-280), gardens were further embellished with hills and scenic water spots.

In the Tang and Song Dynasties (A.D.618-1279), gardens were deeply influenced by scenes from Chinese landscape paintings and as a result, garden design adopted an atmosphere suggestive of poetry, or the illusion of Chinese "mountain and water" paintings.

By the Ming and Qing dynasties (A.D.1368-1911), garden design had

entered a more mature period, and gardens existing in China today are mostly products of this period.

Three Types of Garden

There are several classifications of ancient Chinese gardens; one that categorises them in line with the status of their owners or users and divides them into three types: imperial, private and public.

Being grand in scale, imperial gardens were designed for enjoyment by feudal emperors, good examples being the Summer Resort Villa in Chengde, Hebei Province, and the Summer Palace in Beijing.

Private gardens are mostly found in the southern part of China, especially in Suzhou City in Jiangsu Province, with the Zhuozheng Garden and the Liuyuan Garden as their representatives. Their owners being either rich bureaucrats and businessmen or scholars, these gardens were

Upper: The snaking corridors of Canglang Pavilion, Suzhou, Jiangsu



Lu Fujie

used as a status symbol, a show of their wealth, or an esteem for literary and artistic talents respectively. Scholars' gardens, often with great artistic merit, were mostly designed by the owners themselves.

Public gardens allowed access to the common people. Examples of this type of garden are the West Lake in Hangzhou, the Daming Lake in Jinan and the Shishahai Lake in Beijing. Public gardens are generally large in size. Some contain temples of scenic beauty like the Jinci Temple in Shanxi Province and the Tanzhe Monastery in Beijing.

Bringing "Nature" into the Residence

The appreciation of nature is almost a common human instinct. Em-

perors fenced off their prized areas as exclusively imperial property. Bureaucrats, rich businessmen and scholars brought nature into their residences for different purposes: the bureaucrats and rich businessmen aimed to enjoy nature privately at home, while scholars sought an ideal ambience for their study, the tranquillity inspiring them to write and paint.

Upper: Tranquil and unique, Zhuozheng Garden is one of the most famous gardens in Jiangsu

Lower Left: Exquisite wall carvings inside the Yuyin Mountain Villa, Panyu, Guangdong

Lower Middle: A pavilion set in the man-made hills of Geyuan Garden, Jiangsu

Lower Right: The natural scenery of Liuyuan Garden, Jiangsu



Chen Yat Nin



Huang Yanhong



Ma Yuanhou



Xie Guanghui

Plants such as pine, cypress and bamboo were essential additions to ancient Chinese gardens and a large variety of flowers provided a palette of colours. As follows the saying: "Enjoy camellia in spring, lotus in summer, orange and osmanthus in autumn, and plum blossom in winter."

To emphasise nature for nature's sake, scholars paid particular attention to the appearance and arrangement of bushes, plants and stones. Their private gardens were usually not designed to manifest their wealth or status.

Buildings in Private Gardens

Buildings played a focal point in private gardens. With a functional use in mind, they were often built for both habitation and enjoyment.

Ting, or the hall, was a place for receiving visitors, entertaining guests or watching private performances. It was generally designed with ornate windows and doors, with a large floor space. In front of the hall, there were hills with flowers, plants and rocks.

Tang, the main residential building, was occupied by elderly family members and was usually built along the central-axis line of a cluster of buildings.

Lou is a two-story or higher building which was mostly used as a study area and bedrooms.

Ge, or a court building, was architecturally impressive and was used

to store books, or to view the scenery, or for worshipping Buddha.

Ting, or pavilion, was designed in square, circular, hexagonal and octagonal shapes for relaxing and enjoying the scenery.

Xie, waterside pavilion, was built on a terrace along a waterfront to embellish a scenic spot.

Lang, corridors, usually decorated with paintings, was built to link up the separate garden buildings.

Moreover, the walls and holes in the ancient gardens also had an ornamental function.

Enhancing Outlooks

The well-arranged structure of the ancient gardens in Southern China resulted in providing the visitors perfect views of the scenery, leaving them with the impression of seeing "an infinite scene within a limited space".

In such gardens, some scenes were carefully concealed, slowly revealing an entire picture before the viewer's eyes. At the entrance, there was usually an artificial hill or some trees to screen the inner scenes, drawing the visitors in to further discover the features of the garden.

Upper: The ancient Zhouzhuang Teahouse makes one reminisce

Views or natural elements beyond the gardens were included to aesthetically complement the gardens. For example, outlooks onto remote mountain peaks, rosy clouds at dawn, the setting sun or, the stars, the moon, spring flowers, green trees, autumn clouds, winter snow and so on were all drawn in as part of the garden.

Various landscapes were often framed by viewing windows or holes in the wall. In some gardens, ornamented windows with geometrical figures were set in surrounding walls and gracefully painted corridors to enhance the outside natural view.



Lower: Yanyu Hall in Shizilin (Lion Grove) Garden

Lower Left: Lattice windows in Canglang Pavilion are unique in style.

Lower Middle: A traditional "framed scene" in the Tuisi Garden in Tongli, Jiangsu

Lower Right: The Yuanyang Hall inside the Suzhou Zhuozheng Garden was built during the Guangxu Reign of the Qing Dynasty. Its four corner chambers are decorated with beautiful stained glass windows

Article by Huang Yanhong

Translated by Tan Fuqing



Xie Guanghui



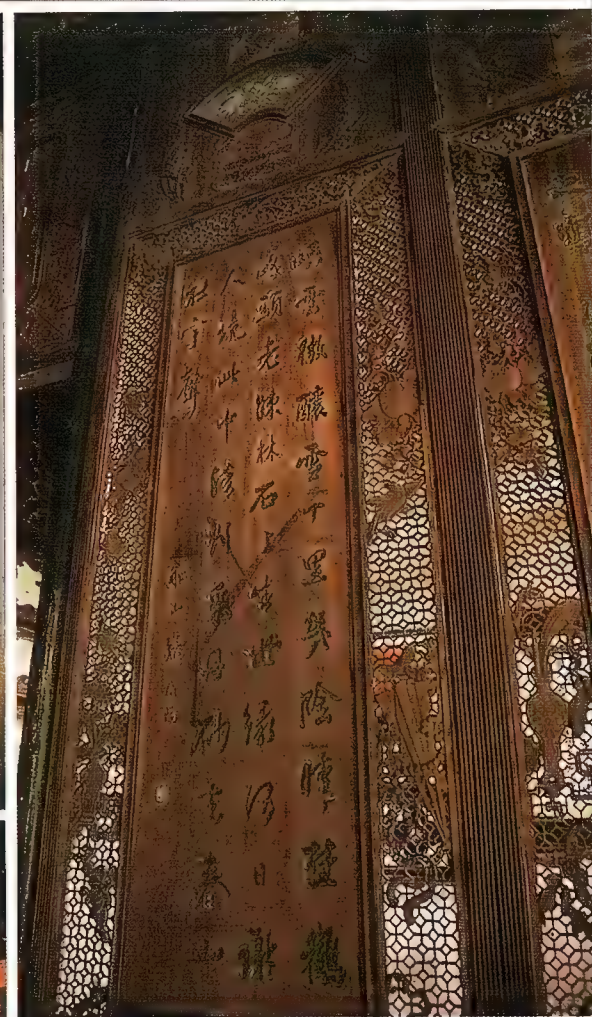
Tai Chi Yin



Ma Yaogun



Xie Guanghui



MAJOR ANCIENT GARDENS IN CHINA

The Summer Palace, Beijing

First built in 1750, this imperial garden was expanded by Empress Dowager Cixi of the Qing Dynasty in 1886. In summer, residents of the Forbidden City would decamp here to escape the ferrous heat of the capital. Covering an area of 294 hectares, the garden is divided into two areas: the palace and the garden. Three-fourths of the park is occupied by the Kunming Lake which is dotted with six islands and nine bridges. The main building on the Wanshou (Longevity) Hill is the 40-metre-high Foxiang (Buddhist Fragrant) Pavilion. The well-preserved garden represents the architectural style of the Qing Dynasty.



The Summer Resort Villa, Chengde, Hebei

The Qing-style villa covering an area of 564 hectares was built in 1703. Among the hills, lakes and woods are 30 scenic spots and over 29 groups of scenery representing various architectural styles such as Inner Mongolia, Xinjiang, Tibet and Southern China.

Geyuan Garden, Yangzhou, Jiangsu

Built in the 18th Century, it is well-known for its man-made hills, towers, terraces and pavilions. Scattered hills and rocks form an atmosphere of the four seasons hence its name "Four Season Man-made Hill".

Zhuozheng Garden, Suzhou, Jiangsu

Unlike the massive imperial gardens, Suzhou gardens were built to



reflect the personal artistic taste of local officials and scholars. This garden was built in 1509 as the private garden of Wang Xianchen, a high-ranking official of the Ming Dynasty. The largest of the four most famous gardens in Suzhou, its most interesting architectures are the Lanxue Hall, the Yuanxiang Hall, the Shuxiang Building and the 36 Yuanyang House.

Canglang Pavilion, Suzhou, Jiangsu

One of the oldest gardens in Suzhou, the garden has a history of 1,000 years. In the north of the garden flows a stream and in the south, a hill is surrounded by a garden with characteristic ancient buildings, from where one can obtain a perfect view of the surrounding scenery. It also houses many rarities from various dynasties such as tablets, and brick

and screen carvings.

Liuyuan Garden, Suzhou, Jiangsu

One of the smallest famous gardens in Suzhou, it was built in the early 16th Century. The garden has been divided into eastern and western sections which are linked by a covered promenade with lattice windows. It is noted for its intricately decorated halls.

Shizilin (Lion Grove), Suzhou, Jiangsu

Another of the four most famous gardens in Suzhou, Lion Grove was built in 1342 after Buddhist Master Tianru of the Ming Dynasty came to the city. It has an attractive man-made hill which looks like dancing lions. Its architecture is mainly Yuan-style, but some Western influence can also be traced.

West Lake, Hangzhou, Zhejiang

The largest public garden in China, the beautiful West Lake has been a natural scenic area since early times, having been renovated many times during the past 1,000 years. Therefore, the area has accumulated many masterpieces of both imperial, private and public gardens. The 5.6-square-kilometre area is divided by four islands.

Yuyin Mountain Villa, Panyu, Guangdong

The villa was built in 1866 in a traditional Lingnan (Guangdong and Guangxi) style. From the main entrance, one can see many lotus ponds, hills, corridors, bridges and water-side pavilions. A lake is surrounded by four main buildings whose numerous wood-carved screens, decorated beams and pillars, brick carvings and lattice windows fill the area with an ancient atmosphere.

Upper Left: The Horse-Head Wall set against magnolia forms a beautiful painting (by Hu Weibiao)

Upper Right: Decoratively carved ceiling inside a hall of Keyuan Garden, Dongguan, Guangdong (by Lin Jianhui)

Middle Left: Carefully cultivated miniature plants in a Hangzhou garden, Zhejiang (by Peng Zheng)

Middle: An interesting scene is composed by the shadow of a branch and a carved round window on the white wall. (by Chapman Lee)

Middle Right: The large, deliberately carved, wood screens inside the Yuyin Mountain Villa, Panyu, Guangdong (by Chan Yat Nin)

Lower Left: The 0.53 hectare Wangshi Garden is the smallest garden in Suzhou. (by Chan Yat Nin)

Lower Right: A decorative window inside the Yuyin Mountain Villa, Panyu, Guangdong (by Chan Yat Nin)

Upper: The view through an ancient round gate in West Lake, Hangzhou (by Zhang Keqing)

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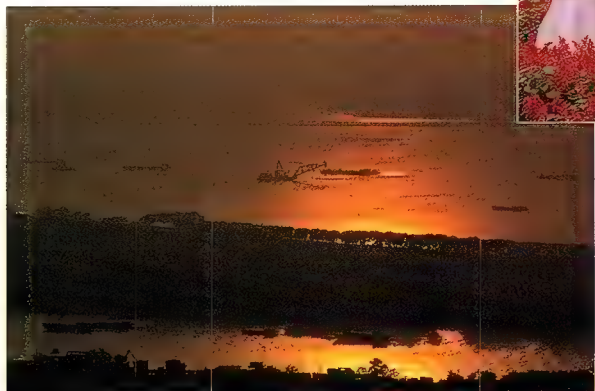
NANJING

KALEIDOSCOPE

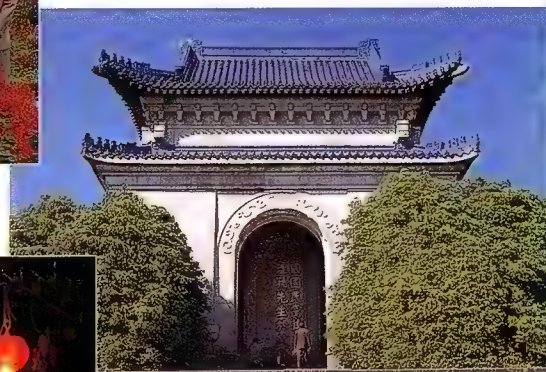
Photos & Article by Xie Guanghui

The mention of Nanjing is likely to make most people think of the rise and fall of the Six Dynasties, or the prosperity of the prominent Wang and Xie Families, and the romance of those literati sailing along the Qinhuai River. But all these have become things of the past. What we want to talk about here and now is today's Nanjing, where an episode in its history concerns Hong Kong, where the largest city wall and the largest stone stele stand, where Soong Mei-ling's First Villa can be found along with a great variety of snack foods, where the huge Buddhist statue for the Lautau Island (Tai Yue Shan) was produced and where newlyweds go through two wedding ceremonies in one day.... In a word, Nanjing, once a forbidden strategic city resembling a coiling dragon and crouching tiger, has become a colourful kaleidoscope today.

Joint wedding ceremony held in Sweethearts' Garden. The brides and grooms are from Nanjing Post and Communications Machinery Factory.



The Yangtze River fertilizes the soil of Nanjing.



The Stele Pavilion in Sun Yat-sen Mausoleum



Jinling Music Palace on Zhongshan Road South



A modern restaurant opened in an old house.



Qinhuai-style snack foods help you taste the traditional Chinese culture.



Grandfather and grandson enjoying themselves on the ancient wall of the Zhonghuamen section

長





南京

NIGHT BY THE QINHUAI RIVER

The people of Nanjing are absolutely correct in saying: The Confucius Temple is a good place to eat.

Everyday as evening unfolds, dozens of flatbed tricycles laden with different kinds of food begin to gather at the square in front of the Confucius Temple, right in front of the stone archway. One after another they set themselves up into snack counters, stretching in a line as long as 100 metres. The appetising aroma of the food drifts along in the evening breeze, and voices of the hawking peddlers rise and fall in waves. The array of the delicious foods is so irresistible that even if one has already eaten supper, one cannot help but take a seat at one of the long benches. It doesn't hurt to taste one or two; they are here not to substitute a meal but merely to satisfy a craving for some good food, a tasty morsel between meal times.

Jinling's snackbars originally evolved from the banks of the Qinhuai River. Nanjing was once a capital during the Six Dynasties, with the Yangtse River flowing by to its north, and the Qinhuai River running through the centre of the city. At that time the area became very prosperous and even high ranking officials, aristocrats and other distinguished figures visited here. Having nothing to occupy their spare time, they began thinking of ways to satisfy themselves with snacks. So various food peddlers and snackbars sprung up one after the other. In the Ming and Qing Dynasties, the teahouses, restaurants and snackbars became more prosperous. The variety of snack food offered reached as many as 200 different kinds.

Back in the Tang Dynasty, the famous poet Du Mu wrote: "The smoke hangs over the cold river under the veil of the moon. We moor at night on the Qinhuai close to a restaurant." These lines of Du Mu's poem conjure up a vivid night scene of that time. Today, the snackbars in front of the Confucius Temple on the banks of the Qinhuai River remain as prosperous as they were. How can one miss the brilliantly illuminated area while roaming through Nanjing at night?



Left page: Besides local snacks, delicacies of various places are also available on the banks of the Qinhuai River.

Right page: Exquisite Qinhuai specialties



ENJOYING THE WONDERFUL QINHUAI SPECIALITIES

Nanjing's specialities, or Jinling Snacks, as they are called, originated along the Qinhuai River. As early as in the Six Dynas-

these are the Laozhengxing, Qifangge, Liufengju and Yongheyuan restaurants near Fuzimiao (Confucius Temple). They are all good

Tasting the Qinhuai Culture

The Qinhuai Renjia Hotel on the south bank of the Qinhuai River is a good place to learn about the Qinhuai culture. Although the houses were only built in the 1980s, they have been designed in late Ming and early Qing architecture, typical of Nanjing. The Night Dock on the second floor mainly serves snacks. Prices are reasonable, for 66 yuan it is possible to sample a dozen famous snacks, such as shredded-chicken and dried



Houses on the banks of the Qinhuai River retain their Ming-Qing architecture style.

ties, when Nanjing was the capital of the Kingdom of Wu, restaurants and food stalls began to appear by the riverside. This food market thrived during the Ming and Qing Dynasties with the varieties of snacks expanding to 200. Today, local people of Nanjing still believe that the best snacks are served at the Confucius Temple by the Qinhuai River.

Old Restaurants Serve Genuine Snacks

If it is the genuine Qinhuai snacks you would like to taste, the best places to go are the old restaurants or wine shops. Namely,

and serve various delicacies. The most famous snacks are the "Eight Delicacies of Qinhuai", which include duck-fat crispy cake, sesame-oil beancurd, assorted vegetable dumplings and shredded-chicken noodles of the Qifangge Restaurant; and crab-meat cakes and shrimp beancurd of the Yongheyuan Restaurant. Both restaurants have VIP rooms.

Other snack delicacies such as jellied beancurd and green-onion cake served by Liufengju Restaurant are enjoyed by everyone. Jiangyouji Restaurant's fried beef dumplings and beef soup have a delicious aftertaste. The Lianhu Cake Shop's five-colour cake and sweet-scented osmanthus dumplings; and Zhanyuan Restaurant's thin-skinned dumplings and smoked-fish noodles are all worth trying.

beancurd, "Ruyi" stewed beancurd, chicken with bamboo and herbs, assorted beancurd soup, sweet-scented osmanthus dumplings, sesame cake, shredded turnip cake, wild goose and wild vegetable buns. Each of them is exquisitely served in Qing-style fine porcelain. In addition to the snacks, the hotel also serves main course dishes, the



Various stewed dishes



Sitting in the Meichunlou Teahouse, one can enjoy the beautiful scenery while sipping one's tea.

famous ones being stewed pork trotters with rice wine, steamed perch with green onion, abalone and shell fish, auspicious fish cutlet and shredded pork with reed root.

The environment in the restaurant is permeated with the life-style and scenery of the Qinhuai River. On the wall, a huge colour painting portrays the river. On a small stage, a band plays *Spring River under Moonlight*, to which a young woman dressed in ancient costume dances with a red fan in



Eating and boating on the Qinhuai River

from the ferry pier below Kuixingge Tower. Taking along some snacks and a bottle of wine,

sound of singing and music were heard throughout the night.

The boat begins its return journey after passing Taoye Ferry and anchors at the starting ferry pier. The whole journey takes about 45 minutes, and the fare is 20 yuan per person or 150 yuan to hire the whole boat.

Eating at Food Stalls

The largest snack market in Nanjing is to be found on the square in front of the Confucius Temple and along the river bank. At dusk, food stalls are set up near the "Cultural Site Under the Heaven" archway.

They serve various kinds of snacks, such as crispy cake, stuffed buns, shredded dried beancurd, duck-fat cake, jellied beancurd and beef, boiled and fried dumplings and thin-skin stuffed buns. Special snacks are served in the different seasons, for instance, wild vegetable and meat buns in spring, thousand-layer rice cake and split bun in summer, crab-meat buns and shredded turnip cake in autumn and pork dumplings in winter.

There are many snacks that non-native Nanjing people have never seen before, such as rice-

flour cake, sweet porridge, green bean starch noodles, four-flavour rice dumplings, osmanthus-scented sweet potatoes, and duck blood and duck intestines soup. The colourful snacks attract many customers, but their prices are very cheap – it is possible to taste all kinds of snacks while spending only 70-80 yuan.

If you watch the Nanjing girls eating at the evening food stands, you may find they all do it in a very delicate manner, only nibbling at the food to slowly savour its flavour.

Tourists, on the other hand, often take big bites and then immediately open their mouths, breathing heavily because they have bitten into something hot. Although I had told myself that I would take only one mouthful of each kind of snack, still, I came to the point where I was so full that I could not eat any more, no matter how attractive the snacks looked. What did I have to pay? Only several dozen yuan. I did not believe it could be this cheap.

You taste not only the food but the flavour of Qinhuai culture at the Boqinhuai Restaurant.



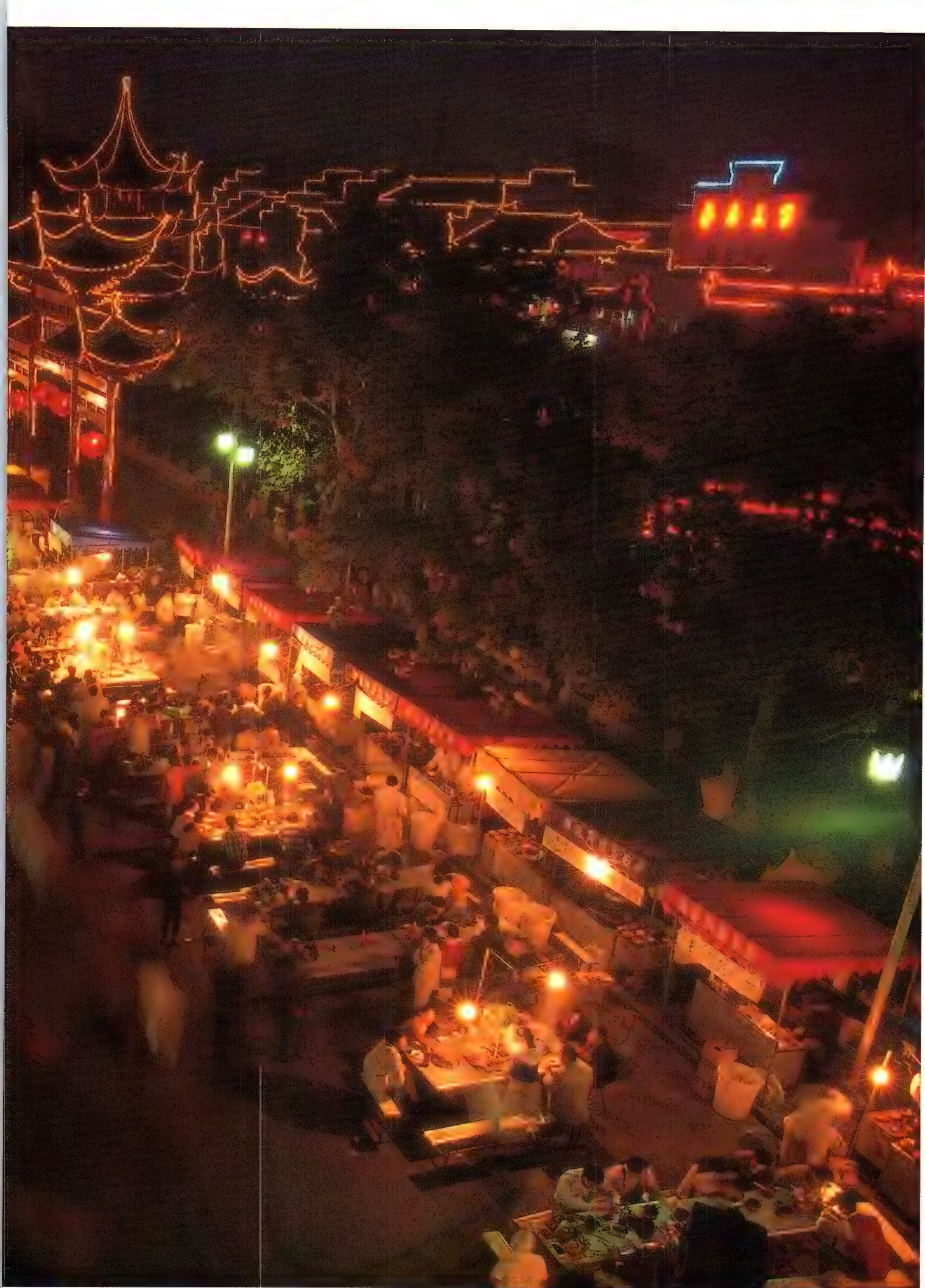
hand. The performance gives the audience an impression of life on the Qinhuai River.

Having A Party on Board

In fact, the best time of day to tour the Qinhuai River is at night. In ancient times, many scholars did exactly that. They spent hours listening to the soothing sound of oars splashing in the water and watching the lights along the river. Even nicer, today, is to hire one of the ancient-style boats

you can have your own little party on board. The ten-metre-long and two-metre-wide boat has seating and is furnished in Ming-style; even the cabin is covered with imitation ancient green glazed tiles and has two big red lanterns hung in front of it. Furthermore, the young boatman dresses in ancient-style clothes. The atmosphere reminds you of the days of the Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368) when the Qinhuai River was alive with brightly lit boats and the







THE VARIETY OF NANJING

Previous page: In the evening, food stalls stretch for 100 metres in front of Confucius Temple, providing a wide variety of Jinling specialities. Left page, Upper: JJ's disco draws a lot of youngsters

Left page, Lower: Artists from Jinling Music Palace dress in Ming-dynasty costumes to play Chinese folk music

Nanjing is simultaneously ancient and modern. Its varying features seem to be in direct contrast with each other but in fact they harmonize, similar to a huge kaleidoscope.

Disco and Elegant Jinling Folk Songs and Ballads

JJ's is an ultra modern, surrealist disco club large enough to hold 1,000 people. From the roof a one-metre-wide beam of light is cast down into the hall. Most of the disco dancers are local young men and women, but a few tourists from other places also come along to enjoy the atmosphere together with the locals. To the strong rhythm of rock 'n' roll, they dance like crazy. If you would like to join them, the cost of admission is 30 yuan.

Every evening in the Art Building on the Zhongshan Road South performances of traditional instrumental music are given by the Jinling Folk Song and Ballad Ensemble. The ensemble consists of 16 of the best performers from the Nanjing Traditional Instruments Orchestra. The musical instruments they play include most of those used in traditional Chinese music such as chime bells, gongs, *xun*, *suona*, *sheng*, bamboo flutes, two-stringed fiddles, zither, *pipa*, and *ruan*. A whole evening's entertainment costs 40 yuan.

Soong Mei-ling's Ford Car and Chiang Kai-shek's Office

In her heyday years Soong Mei-ling, the wife of Chiang



Conference room of the Nanjing Presidential Palace

Kai-shek, had many villas around China, Mei-ling Palace, located at the foot of the Zijin Mountain outside Nanjing, was the largest. Now a place of historical interest, the villa is open to tourists. The first thing one sees is the black Ford car parked at the gate given to Soong Mei-ling by Americans in the 1930s.

Chiang Kai-shek and Soong Mei-ling spent most of their time here in 1949 before fleeing to Taiwan. The phoenix carvings on the white marble balustrades remain the same and the stone tables and stools are kept at their original positions on the balcony, even though half a century has gone by. On display are photos of the Soong Family gathered from the Nanjing Archives Centre.

The Presidential Palace on Changjiang Road used to be the office of the governor of Jiangsu and Jiangxi at the end of the Qing Dynasty, though the front gate was built at the beginning of the Republic.

Passing through this gate you will find a large hall in traditional



This car, once sat in by Soong Mei-ling, is now displayed in Mei-ling Palace. It makes a good photo-shot.

Chinese style. Further inside, you will see a modern Western-style building constructed in the 1930s, which became the office of President Chiang Kai-shek after the Kuomintang government moved to Nanjing in 1945.

Chiang's office was located on the second floor in the eastern part of the building. Chiang Kai-shek's conference hall, upstairs, is kept exactly as it was half a century ago, and is open to visitors.

The buildings of the Presidential Palace can be regarded as an architectural model of Nanjing's modern buildings where visitors can sense the evolution of history.

Chinese and Western Wedding Ceremonies

The Sweethearts' Garden, on Xuanwu Lake, is a special place for young couples because it is here that they go through not only one, but two wedding ceremonies, just minutes apart. One is a Chinese Wedding, the other a Western-style wedding. A very

the bride wears the traditional cheongsam. They are carried to a hall in a bridal sedan chair amidst the sound of gongs and drums. After the wedding ceremony they are ushered into the bridal chamber. The bride sits at the edge of the bed, while the groom uses the arm of a weighing-scale to remove the bride's veil. The charming ceremony is over in 10 minutes.



A traditional Chinese wedding ceremony hosted by the Sweethearts' Garden



Many young couples prefer to hold their Western-style wedding ceremony in Sweethearts' Garden.

popular sight in Nanjing today, sometimes as many as 100 newlyweds emerge from Sweethearts' Garden in one day.

The Chinese wedding ceremony is conducted first. The bride and groom don the robes prepared for them. The groom usually wears a long gown, a mandarin jacket and a hat, and

The Western ceremony is held in a church-like building. The bride wears a white wedding dress, usually rented. The chief witness reads a passage from the Bible, the bride and groom exchange rings and kiss, while Western music is played in the background and white doves are released. Again, the whole proc-

ess takes only 10 minutes. The cost of both is around 500 yuan. Nanjing locals find the Western wedding ceremony novel and funny and tourists regard it as an interesting experience.

The Southern Tang Tombs and the Ming Divine Way

Located in the Zutang Mountain in the suburbs of Nanjing are the Qinling (the tomb of Emperor Li Yi's grandfather Li Sheng), and the Shunling (the tomb of Emperor Li Yi's father Li Jing). Transport to the site is not convenient, but it is still worth visiting. Take the bus from the southern stop at Yuhuatai, get off at Jishan town, then walk for about 20 minutes. Eventually, the surrounding wall of the imperial tombs will come into sight. These buildings are simple, primitive constructions, clearly distinguishable for their Southern Tang style. Many funerary objects have been excavated, among the new finds are some exquisite pottery figurines. From them we realise that the people of the Southern Tang Dynasty were very particular about their attire. The imagination of the people at that time is proved by the figurines made with a human head and the body of a fish, or a human head with the body of a snake.

Inside the chamber of Li Sheng, the founding emperor of the Southern Tang, a astral diagram has been painted on the ceiling, and mountains and rivers carved on the floor. In the tomb of Emperor Li Jing's wife, a

very valuable jade object known as the "Lament Book" has been unearthed. The several dozen jade pieces are engraved with an elegiac address. Each word is inlaid with gold.

The divine way leading up to the Xiaoling Tomb is magnificent. Unlike the divine ways of other tombs which are straight, this one snakes in the shape of a "S" with hundreds of life-like or imaginary creatures guarding both sides. Builders of the tomb wanted to lengthen the divine way to make it look tortuous, deep and never ending, while keeping the tomb of Sun Quan, the ruler of Wu in the Three Kingdoms period (220-280), in its original place on the Plum-Blossom Hill to serve as a screen. Legend has it that when Zhu Yuanzhuang was alive he once said he would like to have Sun Quan to guard his tomb gate.

The layout of the Xiaoling Tomb became an example for the Ming Tombs in Beijing and for later Qing Dynasty tombs. So it can be said that the Xiaoling Tomb created a precedent in the design of emperors' tombs.



The tranquil Xiaoling Mausoleum is favoured by young people.



The two Southern Tang (937-975) tombs provide many valuable stone carvings.

Mega Bowling Alley and Tea by the Lake

At the intersection of the Lhasa and Guangzhou Roads in



Wutaishan Bowling Centre



At the end of the bridge is the Xuanwu Lake Teahouse.

Nanjing, a large bowling alley called the Wutaishan Bowling Centre has been built. Occupying a floor space of 4,000 square metres with 28 alleys it is up to the standard required for international games. It has a computerised scoring system and is open from 10 a.m. to 2 a.m. the next morning. Beginners can benefit from the advice of professional skittle players who give excellent on-the-spot training. If you love to spin UFO-style balls, you can play on the alleys constructed with birch timber imported from the United States. The cost is 40 yuan per game.

At the north-east corner of Nanjing is the Xuanwu Lake, a

large public park. The lake has five islets connected either by dikes or bridges. On the Liangzhou Islet, the most scenic of the five, is a group of traditional buildings sur-

rounded by towering ancient cypress. In the bay of Cuizhou Lake on the northern side of the Xuanwu Lake stands an elegant 2,000-square-metre hamlet

constructed entirely of bamboo. From the hamlet, one can enjoy the entire view of the lake and the distant hills while sipping a cup of tea. If you like, they also have a karaoke room which can be hired.

Water Golf and Peking Opera

People usually play golf on stretches of green lawn, but the people of Nanjing have adopted an original approach to this sport by building a driving range on the billowing Xuanwu Lake. Near the city wall of Xuanwu Gate, a huge platform is suspended over the water with eight driving ranges. The golf balls are made of plastic

so that they float when they land in the water. Lake caddies row their little boats to pick up the balls and return them to you. Tourists with little chance to play elsewhere can satisfy their craving, or if you are a stranger to golf, staff members claim you can become a golfer in half a day.

At the lower reaches of the Yangtse River, Nanjing city is so hot in summer that it is known as a "stove". People unable to bear the heat at home, sought the cool open air under the shade of trees. Those keen on Peking Opera and with nothing else to do, took their musical instruments with them and played a few passages. The music drew many listeners. Thus, the "Peking Opera Corner" was eventually formed.

Now there are over 20 Peking Opera Corners in Nanjing. The largest and most popular one is that under the city gate tower of the Zhongshan Gate Park. Every

other they come forward to sing the arias they know best. Their performances usually draw large audiences, who listen with great delight or even join in with the singing.

Once when I was there a girl of six or seven years old walked over to stand by the fiddle players and, of her own accord, started to sing a long aria from a famous Peking Opera. Her melodious



Golf course on Xuanwu Lake is an ideal place to practise one's serve.



Zhongshan Gate rostrum is a gathering place for opera fans.

day six to seven people form an ensemble to play all kinds of musical instruments such as two-stringed fiddles, full-moon-shaped fiddles and small drums. Most of the amateur Peking Opera singers are retired people. One after the

singing drew warm applause from the crowd.

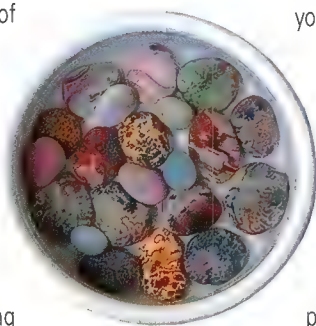
Tourists who want to delve into the life of the ordinary Nanjing people should go and see the Peking Opera Corner at the Zhongshan Gate.

The Largest Stone Stele and the Most Beautiful Pebbles



Emperor Yongle of the Ming Dynasty once planned to use this Yangshan rock to carve the world's largest stone tablet for his father Zhu Yuanzhang.

At the top of Yangshan Hill, 25 kilometres away from Nanjing, is a huge stone stele lying unfinished, like the body of a Boeing 747 aircraft. Emperor Yongle of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), son of Zhu Yuanzhang, wanted to use this stone stele for his father's tomb, the Xiaoling Tomb. It was not used because he finally realised that it was too huge to be moved. In ancient times the transporting of rocks always took place during cold winters. Water was splashed over the ground and allowed to freeze into ice. Then wooden rollers were placed between the ice and the rock and



Yuhua pebbles are the most favourite souvenir.

the whole thing was rolled forward. The huge stone animals, figures and steles on the Divine Way of the Xiaoling Tomb were all delivered by this method. Later, a substitute stone stele was erected at the Xiaoling Tomb, but even though it was as tall as a three-storied building, it was still only one-ninth the size of the intended stone stele on Yangshan Hill.

Looking southward from Zhonghua Gate, you will see a distant hill called Yuhuatai (Raining Flower Terrace). According to legend, Monk Lingguang of the Southern Dynasty (420-589) preached Buddhist sutra here, and the heaven was so moved that flowers fell like rain drops from the sky and turned into pebbles. Thus its name.

Today's Yuhuatai is a large park, with a monument in memory of the martyrs who died in the Liberation War. People say that the Yuhua pebbles can still be found in the earth at Yuhuatai, but it is almost impossible. You can buy them at the souvenir shop in the park. The best are smooth, grained, pure in colour, or with special

characteristics such as wrinkles, moles or holes.

In Autumn each year the Nanjing people usually go on an outing to Mount Qixia, lying 22 kilometres northeast of Nanjing City. The wonderful views from the mountain are additional attractions. However, the main reason people come is to see the beautiful autumn hues of the maple trees.

Ancient Qixia Monastery and China's Longest Bridge

Qixia Temple, nestled at the western foot of the central peak on Mount Qixia, is over 1,500 years old. It is said that Tang Monk Jianzhen stayed here on his way to Japan. To the right is one of the temple's major historical attractions, a 1,300-year-old stupa constructed in the Sui Dynasty (581-618).



This stupa in Qixia Monastery has a history of 1,300 years.

The Nanjing Yangtse River Bridge is one of the greatest achievements of New China, and one for which it is justifiably proud. Opened in December 1968, it is the longest bridge in China. It is a 1,577-metre double-

decker with a roadway on top and a railway below. The bridge was designed and built by the Chinese after relationships between China and the Soviet Union worsened and the Russians walked out, taking all the designs with them. Given the immensity of the construction it really was an impressive feat, before which there was no direct rail link between Beijing and Shanghai. On both sides of the highway bridge are pedestrian walkways enabling visitors to enjoy the view. It would take at least one hour to walk from one end of the bridge to the other.

At dusk, the whole bridge is lit up by 150 flower-shaped lights and the bridge towers are illuminated by coloured lights. In addition, each of the three red flags on the towers has over 700 lights, al-



The three red flags on the Yangtse River Bridge symbolise the era in which it was built.

together making 50,000 lights. The effect of the bright lights creates an almost day-like scene. Unfortunately, most of the lights are only switched on during festivals, so one would have to be very lucky to be able to see this wonderful sight.

Imperial Ceremony and Royal Cloud Brocade

In the Ming Dynasty, Emperor Zhu Yuanzhang chose Nanjing as his capital and gave orders that the Xuanmiao Temple be renovated into

qilin (a mythical beast), tigers, etc., as well as flowers, fruits and celestial objects.



An imperial robe produced in Nanjing



The ceremony to worship the Emperor is held daily in Chaotian (Looking Up to the Sky) Palace.

the Chaotian Palace. On Spring Festival day, the Winter Solstice and the emperor's birthday grand ceremonies were held at the palace by the Imperial Court. Today, a rites ceremony is held everyday at 11 a.m. at the palace imitating the grand ceremonies of the Ming Dynasty for the benefit of tourists, who can watch the ancient ceremony while listening to classic Chinese music.

Another well-known local product is Yunjin (Cloud Brocade), so named because of its "cloud pattern". Its production dating back to the Yuan Dynasty, the brocade was used by the imperial family or as gifts for officials or foreign envoys. Cloud Brocade uses a lot of gold and silver thread to create patterns in the design of creatures such as dragons, phoenix,

In the early 1980s, the Nanjing Cloud Brocade Institute was asked by the Beijing Ming Tombs Dingling Museum to reproduce the "dragon robe", a burial object of Emperor Wanli unearthed from Dingling. The reproduction, embroidered with golden peacock feathers and flowers, was a great success fully matching the technical ability and artistic effect of the original. When the emperor of Japan learned about this, he also ordered one. This time the institute made two robes, one was sent to Japan and the other displayed in the Institute's own showroom. Visitors can visit its workshops and browse through its products including quilt covers, table cloths and many other every-day items.

Po Lin Buddhist Statue and Beamless Hall

The Chenguang Machine Factory, located to the south of the Zhonghua Gate in Nanjing, is a garden-like factory. Displayed on the flower terrace inside the factory gate is a huge bronze hand and the face of the Po Lin Buddhist Statue. The hand stands 4.8 metres high and 3 metres wide while the face measures 6.78 metres high and 4.2 metres across. I was told that the hand and face are replicas of the huge Po Lin Buddhist Statue in Hong Kong. In fact, these two pieces were test samples for the Buddhist Statue made by the factory.

Many people in Hong Kong probably know that the Buddhist Statue of the Po Lin Monastery on Lantau Island is the world's largest sitting bronze Buddha, a massive 250-ton seated statue serenely looking down from the Lantau Peak. But few know that this huge 23-metre-high statue consisting of 202 bronze pieces was made in Nanjing.

called Boundless Hall, taking its name from the Buddha of Boundless Longevity which it housed. It was built without a single piece of wood, nor nails, beams or eaves. Thus it is also known as Beamless Hall. The hall is 22 metres high, 50.4 metres wide and 37.8 metres deep. The walls, also in brick, curves towards the centre to support the arch ceiling. This is really a wonder of ancient Chinese architecture.

In 1928, the Kuomintang government converted the Beamless Hall into a memorial hall for the dead soldiers. The walls in the hall are inlaid with 110 black marble tablets carved with the names of



This giant Buddha's head is exactly the same as the one on Lantau Island, Hong Kong. That is because the Nanjing Chenguang Machinery Factory manufactured all the 202 bronze segments of the mode.



The Wuliang (Beamless) Hall of Linggu Temple remains the style of the Shrine of Kuomintang Soldiers in the 1930s.

Wuliang (Beamless) Hall is the only Ming building still standing in Linggu Temple. It was originally

33,000 soldiers who died in the Northern Expedition War and the War of Resistance Against Japan.

Translated by M.Q. & Xiong Zhenru



南京

SUN YAT-SEN AND NANJING

When I passed Xinjiekou Square during my last visit to Nanjing, I found the position of the bronze statue of Dr. Sun Yat-sen had changed from facing north to facing south. Puzzled, I asked why. The answer was that when the statue faced north it commemorated the Northern Expedition; since the Northern Expedition was over long ago, it was turned round this year to mark the 130th anniversary of Dr. Sun Yat-sen's birth. Facing north or south, Sun was considered by the common Nanjing citizens as one of them.

Dr. Sun Yat-sen was a native of Guangdong. After the 1911 Revolution won preliminary success, the deputies from 17 provinces in the country elected him as Provisional President of the Republic of China on January 1, 1912. He was 46 years old then. He hastened from Shanghai to the cold, snow-covered Nanjing. Inside a Western-style, single-storey building at the Xihua Garden on the Changjiang Road, Dr. Sun Yat-sen took an oath for the office in a booming voice in standard Chinese, tinged with a Guangdong accent. From that moment Chi-

nese history entered a new era.

Sun Yat-sen lived in Nanjing for 95 days. Today, the Provisional President's office has been restored to its original based on the recollections of staff members of the interim government. On the wall inside the office hangs a scroll with the inscription "Strive" in Sun Yat-sen's own handwriting. In the office, a large desk, bookshelves, writing brushes, ink slab, etc. are arranged exactly as when Sun Yat-sen worked there. His simply furnished living quarters are located at the north-eastern corner inside the garden.

The Sun Yat-sen Mausoleum is Nanjing's largest historical site.

Located near to the Xiaoling Tomb of Ming and Linggu Temple, the Mausoleum lies in excellent surroundings on the southern side of the Zijin Mountain. It is said that on April 1, 1912, after Sun Yat-sen resigned from the post of Provisional President, he joined a hunting party with Hu Hanmin on the Zijin Mountain. When he walked to the southern side of the mountain, he said smilingly to his entourage, "I'd like to beg from the people of the country a handful of earth from here to bury my body after I die." Thirteen years later, Sun Yat-sen died in Beijing. In accordance with his wishes, Sun Yat-sen's remains were moved from Beijing and buried here on June 1, 1929.

The mausoleum, designed by Lü Yanzhi, looks like a *muduo* (a kind of bell used in ancient

China), which serves to give warning that "the revolution has not yet succeeded, so all comrades must continue to strive forward".

At the top of the steps is a platform where the memorial ceremonial hall and coffin chamber lie. The front square, arch gate, tomb passage, tablet tower, memorial hall and tomb chamber, are all constructed on one central axis and linked by a long row of broad steps into a magnificent whole.

Inside the ceremonial hall sits the marble statue of Sun Yat-sen. On its seat is engraved the complete text of "The Grand Plan



The remains of Dr. Sun Yat-sen are buried five metres below the stone coffin.

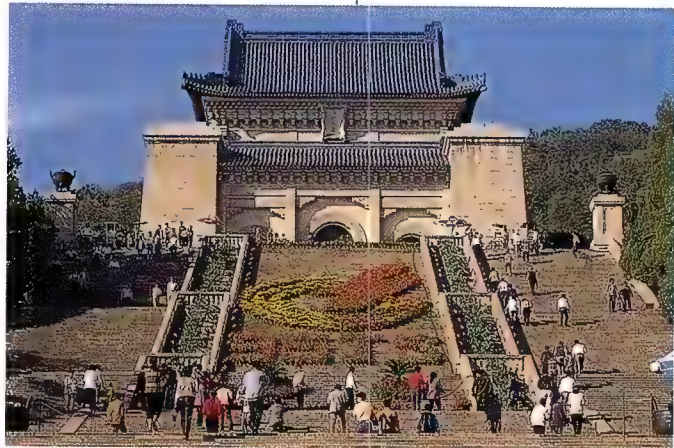
for National Reconstruction" in Sun Yat-sen's own hand writing. In the coffin chamber, a prostrate marble statue marks the spot where Dr. Sun Yat-sen is buried, five metres below ground. A marble balustrade surrounds the pit.

Around the mausoleum are other memorial buildings. On the flower terrace in front of the Sun Yat-sen Memorial Museum stands a bronze statue of Dr. Sun delivering a speech. Inside the museum one can see various precious historical items.

Translated by Xuong Zhenru

Left page: Every morning many elderly people perform their exercises under the Sun Yat-sen Statue.

Below: The magnificent Sun Yat-sen Mausoleum was designed by architect Lü Yanzhi.



南京

MEMORY OF A BLOODY LEAF IN HISTORY

In the morning of December 13, 1947, Japanese invaders flooded into Nanjing City from various directions. Two other troops arrived in Xiaguan and



A statue standing on Wanrenkang (Mass Grave)

Pujiang to the north of Nanjing in the afternoon. A massacre that shocked the world had thus begun. During the six weeks' man slaughter, 300,000 innocent Chinese were killed.

To renounce this bloody crime and call for peace, the Memorial Hall of the Nanjing Massacre has been built at Jiangdong Gate in western Nanjing, one of the 12 massacre sites where tens of thousands of people killed by the Japanese invaders were buried.

The Memorial Hall is constructed out of grey bricks and stones. On the stone wall at the entrance the words "300,000 Victims" are engraved in large black

Chinese characters, as well as in English and Japanese. The sight of it gives one a feeling of horror. On the southern stone wall of the courtyard are scenes and im-

ages of the victims: people stand indignantly with their hands tied behind their backs; the massacred still wear agonised expressions on their faces; terror-stricken children search for their mothers; dismembered victims have their heads and bodies lying in different places.... It seems the souls of these 300,000 massa-

cred Nanjing citizens are still wailing.

Thirteen differently-shaped rocks inside the courtyard along the small passage bear inscriptions relating to the massacres which took place in other areas of Nanjing. Inside the memorial hall of the victims, some of the victims' bones unearthed from the pit of ten thousand corpses are laid among sand and earth, with the victims' names inscribed on the surrounding walls.

In a one-storied building are displayed pictures and records showing the details of how the Japanese conducted the massacre, as well as the bitter experiences of the survivors.



Jinghai Monastery built in the Ming Dynasty



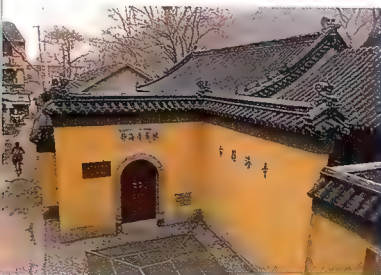
Entrance of the Memorial Hall of the Nanjing Massacre



Stone carvings inside the Memorial Hall of the Nanjing Massacre

Jinghai Temple and Nanjing Treaty

Jinghai Temple, located on the Shizi (Lion) Hill outside Nanjing, was built in the Yongle Period (1411) of the Ming Dynasty. In August 1842, the Qing Government yielded to the threats of the British fleet and the temple became the venue for negotiations for the Nanjing Treaty. The first of the 13 sections was to provide for the cession of Hong Kong. Today, a 100-square-metre exhibition hall in Jinghai Temple displays 120 pieces of historical data relating to the signing of the Nanjing Treaty.



Ancient Jinghai Monastery, where the Nanjing Treaty was negotiated

Tips for Touring Nanjing

COMMUNICATIONS Nanjing, at the lower reaches of the Yangtse River, is an important communications hub serving both north and south China. Its transport facilities for air, rail, road and water are all good. In addition to the daily scheduled flights to and from Hong Kong, more than 30 airlines fly from Nanjing to major cities in the country. Nanjing Airport lies only seven kilometres away from the city proper. Shuttle buses to and from the airport are provided for passengers.

Nanjing's taxis are fairly cheap and are divided into three types: "Audi" taxis with a flag fare of 10 yuan / 3 kilometres (3 yuan per kilometre); "Santana" with a flag fare of 9 yuan / 3 kilometres (2.7 yuan per kilometre); and "Charade" with a flag fare of 7 yuan / 3 kilometres (1.4 yuan per kilometre). Fares for public buses range between 0.5-1 yuan depending on the distance travelled.

Nanjing has four railway stations: Nanjing, Western Nanjing, Pukou and Zhonghuamen. This can be confusing so you should always check your ticket for details of the correct boarding station. Basically, Nanjing Station, located in the north of the city near the Zhonghuamen, is the largest. Western Nanjing Station in Xiaguan District serves trains bound for Shanghai, Hangzhou, Wuhu and Tongling as well as heading to Beijing, Zhengzhou, Luoyang, Xi'an and Urumqi. All trains starting from Western Nanjing Station stop first at Nanjing Station and then leave for the east, north and west. Tickets purchased for a journey starting at Western Nanjing Station mean that you can board the train at Nanjing Station, but the seat cannot be reserved for you. If you purchase a sleeping berth ticket, you can join the train at either station. Pukou Station is the terminus for the Tianjin-Pukou Railway. At present, only trains bound for the north start off from here. Zhonghuamen Station services trains bound for Anhui.

If taking a passenger ship from Zhongshan Dock, a trip upstream will take you through Wuhan, Chongqing and other cities along the Yangtse River; going downstream takes you to Shanghai. In addition, tourist ships shuttle between Zhongshan Dock and

Yanziji. A sight-seeing trip along the Yangtse River is a very pleasant experience.

FOOD Nanjing food belongs to the Huaiyang cooking style which is famous for its freshness. The food is mostly stewed, braised or roasted and soups are carefully prepared with chosen ingredients. Yizhixiang Restaurant, located at 142 Rehe Road, Xiaguan, is well-known for its dishes such as sweet and sour crucian carp, braised silver carp's head, and other dishes called "lion's head without chopping" and "jade tendons", etc. Steamed glutinous rice dumplings and meat dumplings are also provided in the morning. Caigenxiang Restaurant, located at 296 Zhongshan Road East, offers a variety of dishes including one called "general passing bridge" and others such as shredded dried beancurd and chicken egg custard.



Central Hotel

ACCOMMODATION There are 70 hotels open to overseas tourists, including the four- and five-star hotels such as the Jinling Hotel, Central Hotel, Xuanwu Hotel, Ancient South Capital and Nanjing International Convention Centre with a standard room rate of RMB¥700-800 per night. The more than a dozen three-star hotels like Nanjing, Mandarin Chamber and Zhongyang charge RMB¥400. These hotels are fully-equipped and offer excellent service. There are also plenty of hostels and small hotels in Nanjing whose rates range between RMB¥100 and 150.

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS Nanjing is located between the temperate and sub-tropical zones. It has four clearly divided seasons with a longer winter and summer. The maximum temperature in summer reaches 39°C and the minimum in winter is -10°C. The best season to visit Nanjing is either in the spring or autumn.



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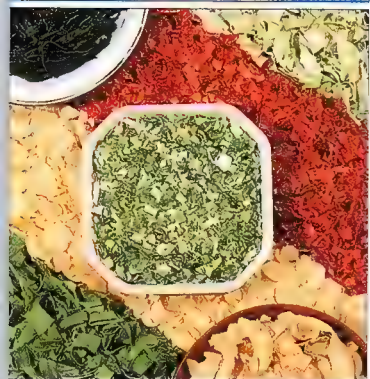
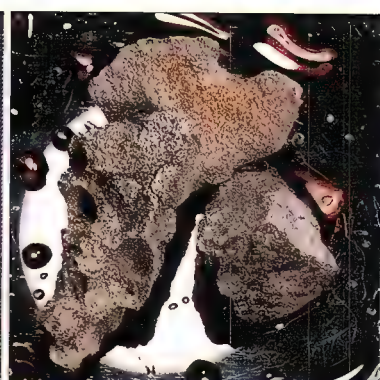
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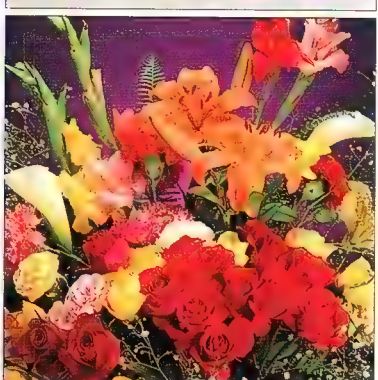
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LONGSHENG HOT SPRING

Whenever I have the chance I love to bathe in a hot spring. Unfortunately, most of the time, bathing places are hidden away in concrete buildings and the spring water has to be piped through a zigzag of tubes before it finally reaches the bath tub.

It had always been my dream that someday I would be able to enjoy a hot spring at its source – in the open air, so that I could enjoy both the water and the breeze.... the generous caress of Mother Nature.

My dream came true last spring when I visited the Longsheng Hot Spring located deep in the mountains of Longsheng County in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. There on the mountain slope, alongside the hot spring, three huge pools have been built nestled against high cliffs covered with trees and wild flowers. Word of the hot spring had obviously spread. When I arrived, all three

pools were already full of people. Through the mists, I saw men and women of all ages completely relaxed and as happy as children. In the warm embrace of Mother Nature, everyone had forgotten about the stress caused by urban life. Once immerse in the pool, there would be no more trouble nor sorrow. Everyone wore a big smile on their face which seemed to be saying, "Hi! Why don't you come and join us. We're just one big happy family."

Before I realised, I had joined the crowd of bathers. The water, as well as the friendly atmosphere, warmed me. In less than 10 minutes, I began to perspire. So I stepped out of the pool and stretched out on a stone by the water. With my eyes half closed, I saw white clouds floating high above me. Both sides of the valley were draped with thick

woods, and the rising mists from the hot spring lingered overhead while birds chirped in the distance. I felt drunk with the beauty of nature.

I decided it was worth staying a while longer. There was certainly no problem for me to find accommodation. Half way up the mountain, along a stream, are the ethnic Yao-style houses belonging to Bamboo Villa. Even luxury suites are available as well as standard rooms for two or more people. A very convenient facility is that water from the hot spring is plumbed directly into the bathrooms of these hotels.

Once I'd had enough of the spring, I took a stroll along the primitive mountain roads. A clear stream ran alongside the Hot Spring Villa.

I crossed over a creaking bridge and followed the meandering road. I was surrounded by the silence and the dark green foliage of the forest. Finally, the road ended and I came across several bamboo buildings belonging to the Yao people. Their life seemed simple and easy.

Photos by Shi Baoxiu

Article by M. Leisure

Translated by Eva Liu

Upper: The feeling of returning to nature is beyond description.

Lower: Longsheng Hot Spring is located deep in a primitive forest where waters of between 42-58°C gush out of a dozen or so fissures.

Right Upper: This statue reminds one of a freshly bathed Yang Yuhuan, the favourite concubine of Emperor Minghuang of the Tang Dynasty.

Right Lower: A modern bath house has opened on the top floor of the Hot Spring Villa.





Tips for a Trip to Longsheng

Transportation:

The Longsheng Hot Spring is 120 kilometres from Guilin. More than 10 buses set off for Longsheng from the bus and railway stations of Guilin.

Accommodation:

In Longsheng Hot Spring Villa, rooms of various styles are available with rates ranging from 150-300 yuan. A room in a Yao-style bamboo building costs 150 yuan a day.

Food:

Around the Hot Spring Hotel there are two restaurants which provide dishes made from mountain produce. There are a dozen food stalls selling different dishes in the style of the Yao, Miao and Dong peoples.

Shopping:

Peddlers there sell local produce such as wild mushrooms, bamboo shoots and edible fungus.

Hot Spring Treatments:

Besides being safe to drink, the spring water is also effective for treating diseases such as coronary heart disease, arthritis, high blood pressure and skin problems.



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THE DAI PEOPLE IN YUNNAN

Xishuangbanna Prefecture, Yunnan Province, is home to an ancient ethnic group known as the Dai, whose communities can also be found in Dehong, Gengma, Menglian and other counties in the province. The total Dai population today is close to one million.

In ancient times, the Dai people were merely one branch of a major southern ethnic group, the Vietnamese. In the intervening years, the Dais evolved into a number of sub-groups. Those living in the hinterland were known as "Han Dai", as they had absorbed much of the culture of the Han people; while those living in Xishuangbanna had managed to keep intact many of their ethnic characteristics, and were accordingly called "Riverside Dai".

It was not until the 1950s that these ethnic people were designated as "Dai".

Ever since the Dai people have gained autonomy over their residential areas, they have changed their landscape beyond recognition.

Construction of quite a few water conservation projects have taken place, as well as the introduction of scientific farming methods. Mineral resources have been exploited; power and machine-building plants built, and tea-curing and sugar refining industries have also developed. Both industry and agriculture are growing robustly in Dai-inhabited areas.

Underdeveloped transportation systems, too, have become a thing of the past in areas inhabited by the Dai people; the emergence of a road network extends to every village and township. Education also has markedly improved. Primary education has, by and large, become popular, and Xishuangbanna alone boasts nearly 1,000 schools of various types.

The phonetic Dai language, which stemmed from the Pali language of ancient India, takes a variety of forms. After the Hinayana school of Buddhism spread into China, the written Dai language evolved to meet the growing need for translated versions of the Buddhist scriptures.

Beliefs and Customs

The Dai people, who used to believe in a primitive form of religion, were gradually converted to the Hinayana school of Buddhism from India. Seeking self-perfection in solitude is a Hinayana creed derived from the belief that Sakyamuni attained enlightenment through rigid abstinence. Thus, an ethnic Dai male is not allowed to marry nor have children unless he has spent some time cloistered as a monk. At the age of six or seven, boys are initiated as Buddhist novices in a nearby monastery and do not return to secular life until after three to 30 years. Some choose to remain as monks for the rest of their lives.

As Hinayana Buddhism gained popularity in the Dai communities, it made its impact felt in everything from daily life and local customs to literature and art. This is the case for two of the Dai people's major festivals, the Festival to Close the Doors and the Festival to Open the Doors. During the rainy, slack farming season (which lasts from the sixth to ninth lunar

month every year) the Dai people enter the monasteries, and behind closed doors (hence the festival's name) they sit in meditation, paying homage to Buddha and listening to sermons. At the end of the 90-day festival comes the Festival to Open the Doors, during which men and women of all ages gather together at the local temple to ask Buddha for his blessing.



Costumes

Dai women are fastidious in their attire and coiffure. The clothes they wear vary with age and region. For example, young girls coil their hair up on top of their head, and wear loose-fitting jackets with the sleeves extending over the belly. A piece of cloth is tied around the waist and the trousers worn barely cover the knees. Older teenage girls and young women wear their hair in braids coiled in circles around their heads.

Dai women living by the Honghe River in south Yunnan regard black teeth as a symbol of feminine beauty. They are also known as "folk with flowery waists", for they often fasten around the waist a 12-inch trumpet-shaped basket woven with tiny bamboo strips in colourful patterns.

Dai men are attired more or less the same as other country men in central China, with little thought given to fashion and aesthetics.

Abodes

Stilted bamboo dwellings are ubiquitous to most Dai communities, being a legacy from their ancestors who in turn identified with their Vietnamese ancestors. Such dwellings are



Left page: A happy Dai family
Above: The cup-sized ring made from steamed glutinous rice stuck in the centre of this pedestal drum helps create a special sound effect when beaten.



propped up by several dozen bamboo trunks with the animal barn and warehouse downstairs and the bedrooms upstairs.

Diet

The Dai people eat two meals a day which are taken together with the whole family sitting around a tiny table fashioned out of woven bamboo.

A prized delicacy of the Dai people is glutinous rice which is prepared in bamboo and eaten with the fingers. It is made by filling a length of newly cut bamboo with rice and water; after the rice has been soaked for some time the trunk is baked on a fire. The rice is done to a turn when the outer skin of the bamboo is burned brown. When the burnt bamboo is removed, the rice exudes a heady aroma which never fails to tempt the palate.

Visitors to a Dai family are always treated to intestinal bile obtained from cattle. The Dais use this as copiously as the Hans use soy sauce.

Love and Marriage

Love among Dai young men and women springs freely and future partners usually meet at occasions such as antiphonal singing, the tossing of a tiny sand bag at each other, and the sale of chicken meat. The tossing of a sand bag is a favourite love game between young people during the Water Splashing Festival. If a couple have caught each other's fancy, they



Chapman Lee

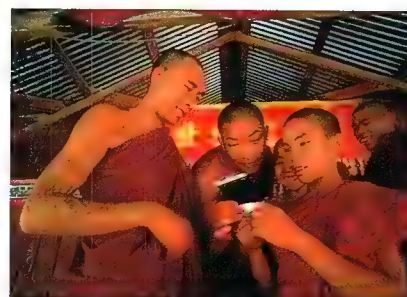
take turns to toss a tiny sand bag at each other repeatedly. The more persistently the bag shuttles between a couple, the more likely they will "go steady" and eventually "tie the knot".

When a couple agrees to marry, the bridegroom-to-be is obliged to visit his woman's parents and make a proposal. If it is accepted, he is asked to present them with betrothal gifts which include two clusters of bananas of even number – which liken the husband-wife relationship to the bananas attaching to the same root. If the marriage proposal is refused, the bridegroom-to-be is likely to stage a make-believe kidnap in which he pretends to steal his bride.

Weddings in the Dai tradition are held in full pomp and pageantry. A wedding is preceded by a visit to the local Buddhist temple, where monks are invited to chant the holy words for the newlyweds. The wedding ceremony begins at the bride's home and is then moved to the bridegroom's home. The groom is "harassed" and "interrogated" repeatedly, in a seemingly embarrassing fashion, by his well-wishers before



Chapman Lee



Wang Miao

Left page, Upper: A Dai-style Buddhist stupa near the Yingjiang River, Yunnan

Left page, Lower: At the age of six or seven, boys are sent to the monastery to become monks.

Upper: Young monks resting in front of the monastery

Left: A Dai woman making her contribution to Buddha

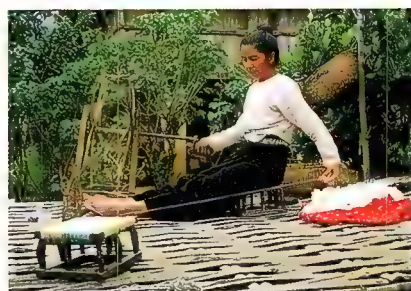
Right: Pattra scripture is tattooed on the arms of monks.



Wang Miao



Wang Miao



Chapman Lee

he is allowed to enter the bridal chamber. The couple are asked to scramble for a leaf of the betel nut palm tree – whoever grabs it first will call the shots in the family; then an elderly among the well-wishers produces a length of white thread to tie the new couple together – the message being that from this day on their hearts will beat together forever.

The wedding is graced with performances by singers, who bring the event to a climax by launching themselves into a heated singing competition.

Names

The names of the Dai people are a cultural phenomenon in themselves. A new-born baby has to be named by the abbot of the local temple; the name thus becomes the baby's pet name. A year after a boy is sent to the local monastery as a young novice, when he is initiated as a monk, his pet name is replaced by another one given by the abbot. Several years later, when he quits the monastery and returns to the secular life, the boy's monastic name is replaced with a third name. When an ex-monk subsequently gets married and has fathered a

child, all his names are abolished, and people start referring to him as "father" plus his child's given name.

A Dai woman is exempt from all this fuss with names – throughout her life she is first known by her pet name, and then "mother" plus her child's given name.

Festivals

The Water Splashing Festival, by which the Dai people bid farewell to the old year and welcome the new, is the grandest of all the Dai festivals. It takes place in April, or the first month according to the Dai calendar. On the first morning of the festival local temples are graced with freshly picked flowers and green leaves and the statues of the Buddha are washed clean with pailfuls of water fetched from a river or nearby well. The locals then go to the streets, with a basin or jar in hand, and start splashing water at whoever comes into sight. The water, regarded as a symbol of good luck, is often tossed from head to toe, and everyone is in a highly jovial mood. Water splashing is often accompanied by singing and dancing. Dragon boat races are also held on

the Lancang River. This joyful festival generally lasts three to five days.

Tips for Travellers

Xishuangbanna Prefecture, a major habitat of the Dai people, is renowned for its exotic natural scenery. A journey from Kunming (capital of Yunnan Province) to Jinghong (capital of the prefecture) 730 kilometres away takes two days by bus and 40 minutes by plane.

Visitors may spend some time at Mandou Village close to Jinghong which has been constructed as a showcase of Xishuangbanna folklore. In the village one can marvel at dwellings built in the Dai architectural style, attend a variety of shows of folk songs and dances, and feast on food prepared in true Dai culinary style. One kilometre to the southeast of Jinghong stands Manjinglan Village, a Dai community famed for its bamboo structures and its courtyards intermingling amidst a maze of bamboo fences. The village also features a street lined on both sides with restaurants, where hospitable Dai hosts and hostesses treat their guests with delicacies in all manner of flavours – satisfaction is guaranteed. On April 13-15 every year the village is the venue for the grand celebrations of the Water Splashing Festival.



Shao Yu

If one has time to spare, try travelling further south to Mengla. It is a county with bewitchingly natural views and is full of folklore. A number of beautiful Dai villages are situated by the county seat. Every day as the sun sets, the Nanla River, which meanders its way through these villages, teems with young ladies taking a bath in its waters. In the background smoke curls from numerous kitchen chimneys to create a scene alluring enough for any visitor seeking to get deliciously lost for a while, away from home.



Article by Huang Yanhong

Translated by Ling Yuan



Shao Yu

Left page, Upper: Bathing in the Menghai River
Left page, Middle: Preparing for a cock fighting
Left page, Lower: Weaving cotton thread
Upper: Water Splashing Festival
Lower: The bamboo houses of the Dai

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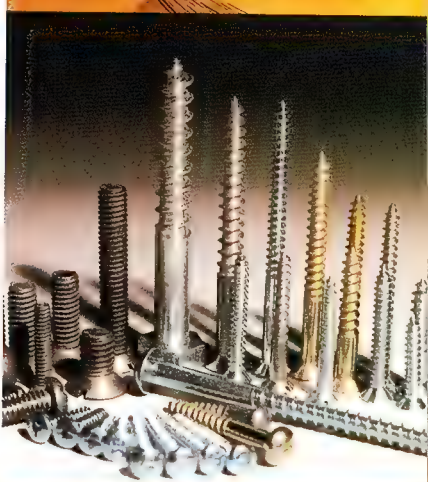
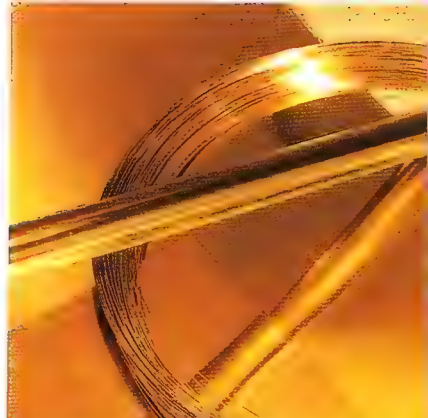
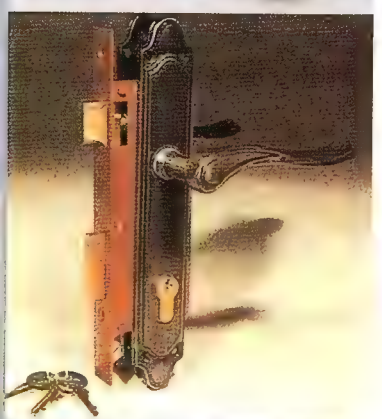
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CLOISONNÉ

I have a cloisonné (Jingtai) flower vase at home, but the vase has never been put to use because I thought it was too rustic to compliment the Western-style flowers I love.

Cloisonné artefacts were initially made as playthings for imperial and feudal nobles in olden China and were mainly for ornamental or decorative purposes. Later the cloisonné art spread widely among the folk people,

and cloisonné utensils such as tea sets, flower vases, bowls, plates, candlesticks and wine pots began to appear. In modern times Chinese artists have begun to produce cloisonné telephone sets, fish bowls, pens, watches, etc. As a result, cloisonné artefacts have become not only ornamental but also practical.

Recently I visited an arts and crafts shop located at Wangfujing Street in Beijing and felt it necessary to share what I learned with other readers. It greatly broadened my vision of the art of cloisonné. Not only did I re-study the history of the art, but also learned how to appreciate the beautifully-shaped, brightly-coloured patterns of the cloisonné artefacts.



This pair of exquisitely wrought cloisonné gourds are rare pieces of art.

The Beijing Wangfujing Arts and Handicrafts Shop allows tourists to visit their upstairs workshop with a guide introducing a few special cloisonné products to them.

The first is an ornament in the shape of a dragon. It is a rare piece. Inlaid with

gold, this valuable work of art is a fine example of the exquisite craftsmanship employed by the artists. The second item is a pair of cloisonné gourds.

The guide explained that because the gourd is round and three-dimensional, it is extremely difficult to apply

colour to it; any carelessness or

lack of expertise would allow the enamel to



Tourists visiting the workshop of the Beijing Arts and Handicrafts Shop.

spill away or to mix with the base colour. The third items are practical and ornamental cloisonné screens. These wooden screens are first engraved and then inlaid with ready-made cloisonné patterns. They combine the art of engraving with the technique of painting, creating a new imaginative use for cloisonné.

Most of the visitors in my group were foreigners who were amazed by this fantastic handicraft developed in China as early as in the Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368). Among them I found Mr. Martin Yan, an American cook show host who was making a special trip to Beijing for his cloisonné collection.

For a whole morning I stayed at the arts and crafts shop, learning about the processes of cloisonné manufacture, and discovered the process of cloisonné making was rather complicated.

The first step is making the "roughcast", which is made of red copper, as this metal can be easily formed into various shapes

and jointed together. The making of a vase, for example, needs three roughcasts: the body, mouth and base. Then all three parts are welded together to form a whole vase.

The second step is the "wire inlay". Wire inlaying on a cloisonné vase is a meticulous, creative craft. The fine copper wire of one-sixteenth of an inch thin is first dipped into a thick white liquid before it is glued onto the copper roughcast according to the pattern designed.



This gold-inlaid cloisonné dragon is so precious that few buyers dare to ask its price.



Colouring the cloisonné



Artists applying enamels

The function of the wire inlay is to create a network of dividing lines so that when the different enamels are applied they do not spill over. After gluing the thin wires into place, the roughcast is baked over a fire. Thus the intricate patterns created by the thin wires are set on the surface of the roughcast.

Next, enamels are applied to the inlaid patterns. This process is called "enamelling" and the material used is the same as for making coloured glass. After each of the enamels is applied, the vase is baked once in a furnace where the temperature inside reaches 700-800°C. After a few minutes, it is taken out and the next enamel colour is added and it is put back into the furnace again. This is repeated three or four times until the enamel fills up all the hollow inlays.

The last process is called "burnishing". After the vase is fired, the next step is to polish the semi-finished product with an emery waterstone to make the surface smooth. Lastly, gold or silver-plating is applied. Once all this is done, a cloisonné art piece is complete.

The visit to the cloisonné workshop and its

variety of uses was a real eye-opener for me and I'd like to offer the following tips:

– Generally speaking, small cloisonné ornaments and utensils are not expensive. A pair of ordinary 8-inch flower vases cost about 150-200 yuan, better quality ones cost 400-500 yuan per pair; tea sets about 200 yuan per set; watches around 150 yuan each and pens 30-50

yuan each. Other ornaments and decorations like brooches and hairpins are very cheap and can be bought for a few dozen yuan.

– Large cloisonné products such as screens and goldfish bowls range from several thousand yuan to several dozen thousand yuan according to their size and the level of craftsmanship.

– Cloisonné products are not fragile so when buying artefacts as presents for friends, you don't have to worry about delivering them safely as slight bumps or knocks won't cause any damage. As for large cloisonné articles, they are usually packed in boxes and are well protected.

– Cloisonné can be easily purchased in Beijing and other large cities in China. The Friendship Department Store and arts and crafts shops provide a great selection for customers to choose from.

– In Hong Kong you can buy cloisonné artefacts at the large department stores selling Chinese goods or at shops dealing in Chinese arts

Where to Buy Quality Cloisonné in Beijing

Name	Address	Telephone	Demonstration Times
Beijing Enamel Factory	10 Anlelin Road, Yongdingmen Wai, Beijing	67211155 (Ext.)	08:30 – 11:00 / 13:00 – 17:00
Beijing Arts and Handicrafts Factory	5 Xinkang Road, Xijiekou Wai Street, Beijing	62013547	08:30 – 18:00
Beijing White Peacock Art World	Binhe Road, northeast of Deshengmen Wai, Beijing	62018084	–
Beijing Golden Peacock Art World	13 Zhuanjialou, Chaoyang District, Beijing	64239421	–
Beijing Coloured Glaze Factory Guyizhai	107 Liulichang Street East, Xuanwu District, Beijing	63016196	–

Remarks: Demonstrations are free of charge and held only on weekdays.



and crafts. But generally speaking the price is 20-30% higher than that on the mainland.

Two brands of vases are most favoured by customers: One is the Jingfa brand produced by the Beijing Enamel Factory; the other is Diehua made by the Beijing Arts and Handicrafts Factory.



Photos by Xie Guanghui

Article by M. Leisure

Hainan Tourism

Haikou in Hainan Province will promote ten tourism programmes this year featuring holidays on tropical beaches, folk customs of ethnic minorities, excursions to hot springs, local foods, tropical plants, touring cultural and relic sights, business meetings and investigation tours.

A 30-metre-high gigantic aviary covering 28,000 square metres is being built in the Dongshanhu Wildlife Park in Hainan Province. To make the thousands of birds feel at home, the "cage" will contain tall palm trees and an artificial lake.

Sister City with Canada

Huanggang, a city in Central China's Hubei Province, is to establish a sister city relationship with Prince George in Canada's British Columbia. Representatives from both cities have already met in Beijing.

Fast Lane Bridge, Jinan

A new expressway bridge over the Yellow River will be built near Jinan in East China's Shandong Province. The 5,700-metre-long and 35.5-metre-wide bridge will have 12 lanes with a speed limit of 120 km/h. The bridge will be part of a new expressway between Jinan and Dezhou, a traffic hub in northern Shandong. Costing US\$84.3 million, it will be the most expensive bridge yet over the Yellow River.

Everbright Securities in Beijing

The Everbright Securities Co Ltd has announced its establishment in Beijing with approval from the People's Bank of China. Comprising the former securities businesses of the Everbright International Trust and Investment Corp, the new company, with a registered capital of US\$30 million, will issue various securi-

ties, serving as an agent for the purchase and sale of securities and providing advice on investment and financial affairs.

Tianjin to Host World Gymnastics Championship

North China's Tianjin has been chosen over Paris and Indianapolis, to host the World Gymnastics Championships in 1999. The coastal city hosted the 43rd World Table Tennis Championships in 1995.

Book Exhibition, Beijing

More than 45,000 books, periodicals, and audio, video and electronic products were on display recently at Beijing's Exhibition Hall for a five-day National Exhibition on Achievements in Publishing. The exhibition was the largest publishing display ever held in China and attracted 540 publishing houses from across the country who brought award-winning books and material published over the last five years.

China currently has 563 publishing houses which last year produced approximately 100,000 titles and sold 6.2 billion copies. The aim of the exhibition was to catalogue past achievements and promote the development of China's publishing industry.

Ancient Coins Found

A farmer in a village along the ancient Silk Road, has dug up some 1,300 coins believed to be from the Han Dynasty (206 B.C.-A.D. 220), whilst ploughing his field.

The coins include 20 Wuzhu coins bearing special marks never seen before. Chinese experts have not yet established whether they were cast for commemorative purposes or for circulation. The collection of coins were discovered in Xiji County in Northwest China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, an area famous for its local love of coin collecting.

Monkey Reserve and Tourism Zone, Xi'an

The world's only breeding centre for the Golden-Haired Monkey, a rare species found only in China, will be built later this year in Xi'an, the capital of Shaanxi Province. The US\$361,000 project of Xi'an Zoo will be jointly funded by the Ministry of Construction and the city's municipal government. The zoo which already has 30 years' experience in the research and breeding of this kind of monkey, has so far bred eight Golden-Haired Monkeys.

Also in Xi'an, a tourism park, called the Qujiang Holiday Resort, will feature the history of China at a cost of US\$96.4 million. To be located near the Dayan (Wild Goose) Pagoda, highlights include technically advanced displays showing the cultural legacies left behind by the Silk Road and by dynasties spanning from the Zhou (1000 to 221 B.C.) to the Tang (618-907).

Suspension Bridge Completed, Guangzhou

A 888-metre suspension bridge has been completed recently in Guangzhou, Guangdong Province as part of the Humen Bridge Project. It forms an important link on the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Zhuhai expressway. More than 60 per cent of the 15.76-kilometre project consists of bridges and tunnels.

Do-It-Yourself Tours

Shanghai is offering tailor-made tours in which tourists can choose their own programmes, time-tables and method of transport. So far the service offered by Shanghai Chunqiu International Travel Service is proving very successful – since March over 2,000 people have been attracted by the idea of the self-service tours pioneered by the agency. In addition to tours around Shanghai, visits to neighbouring Nanjing and Yangzhou are also possible.

Shanghai Games

Shanghai is to host the first Asia-Pacific Games for the Mentally Disabled on December 8-11. So far China has staged four national games for the mentally retarded. Some 1,000 athletes from 16 countries and regions will take part in the games, which will feature field and track, table tennis, swimming, soccer and basketball.

World's Largest Flower Fair, Kunming

Kunming, capital of Yunnan Province is planning to hold one of the World's largest-ever flower fairs in 1999. Planned to open in May and last six months until October the fair is expected to attract up to 10 million visitors.

Excellent Investment Growth, Xiamen

Xiamen, one of China's five special economic zones, has reported a 100-per cent growth rate in investment in the first six months of this year. Since January the 100-square-metre investment zone has approved 14 overseas funded projects from countries including Singapore, the United States, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Austria, Britain and Japan bringing in more than US \$100 million. Official

statistics state that a further 50 industrial projects, with a total value of US \$1 billion, have been approved for later this year.

Garment Fair, Dalian

Dalian will host its largest ever international garment fair from September 7-19. It is expected to attract 1,200 clothing companies from Japan, South Korea, Australia, the United States, France, Italy and Hong Kong who will present their brand name clothes and latest designs.

Keeping Fit Festival and Travel Fair, Baoding

Baoding City, 140 kilometres south of Beijing, will host its fifth China Baoding Respecting the Aged and Keeping Fit Festival and Hebei Travel Fair from October 9-11. Activities include an exhibition of the area's historical sites.

Temple Re-Opened, Chengde

The renovated Puyou Temple in the Chengde Imperial Summer Resort has been re-opened after being destroyed during a thunderstorm in 1964. All eight world-renowned temples are now open. Built between 1713 and 1789 for the emperors of the Qing Dynasty the temples not only represent the architectural style of the period, but also feature the complicated politics of the time.

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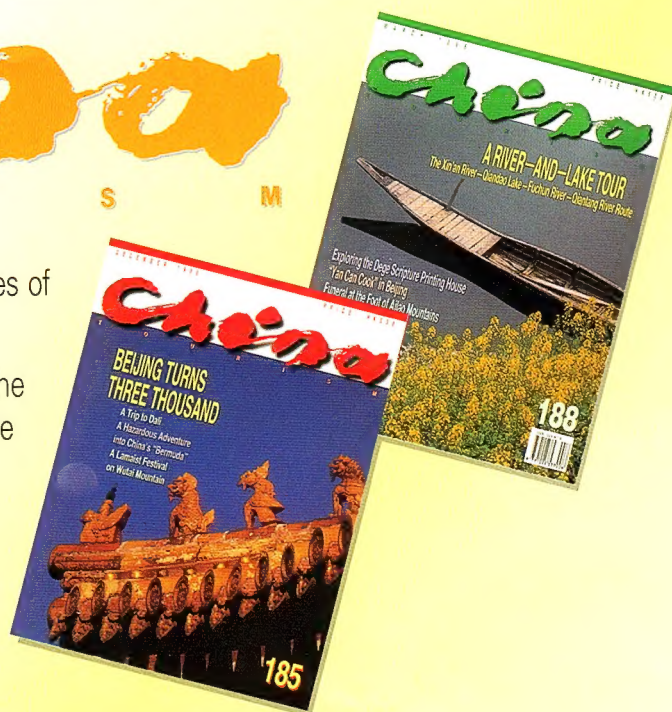


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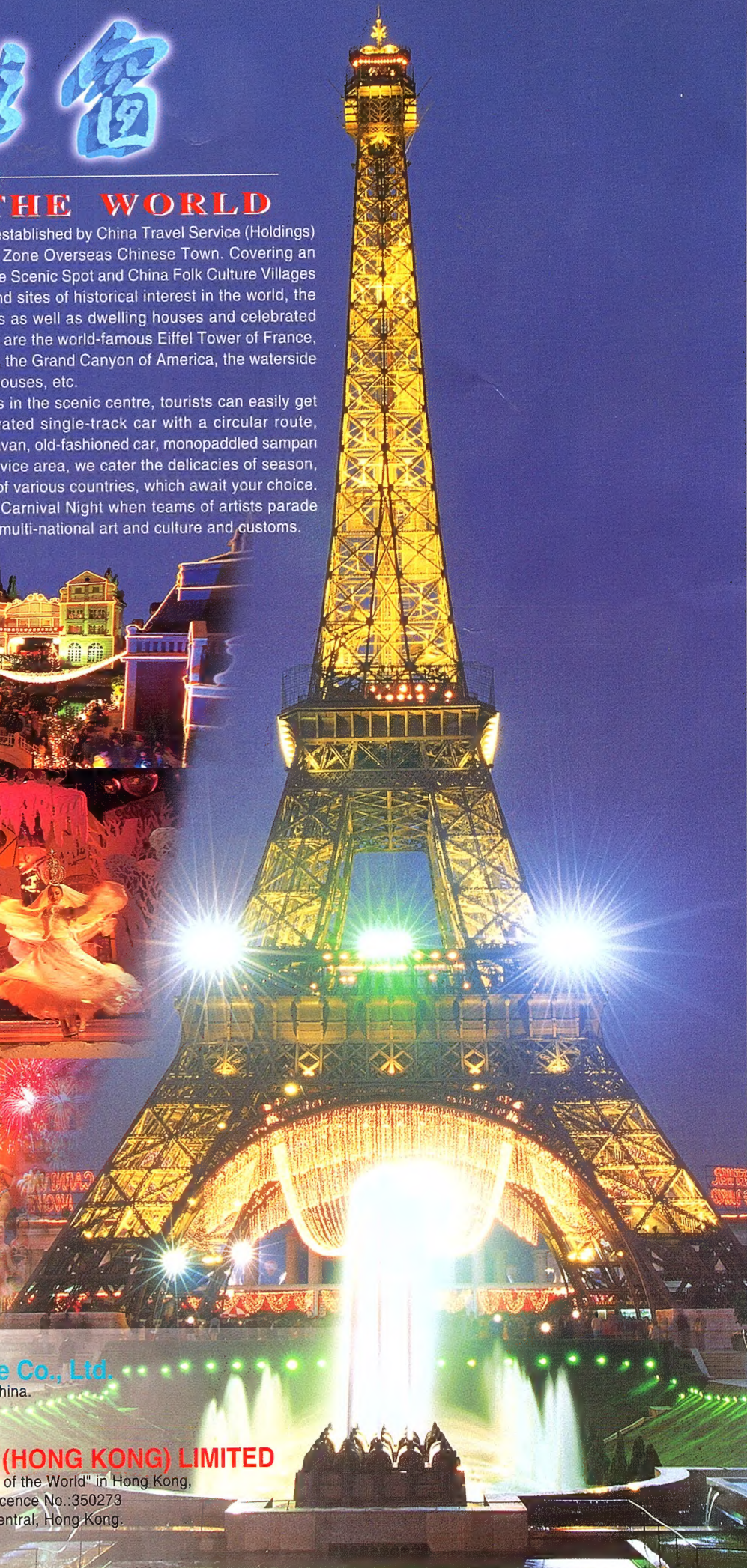


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